



## **I-70 EAST**

SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
AND SECTION 4(F) EVALUATION

## **WETLANDS AND OTHER WATERS OF THE U.S. TECHNICAL REPORT**

ATTACHMENT N

AUGUST 2014





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# List of acronyms

AB	Aquatic bed (submerged or aquatic vegetation)
BMP	Best management practice
CDOT	Colorado Department of Transportation
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CDOW	Colorado Division of Wildlife
CWA	Clean Water Act
Denver	City and County of Denver
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FACWet	Functional Assessment of Colorado Wetlands
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FR	Federal Register
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GIS	Geographic information system
GPS	Global positioning system
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NWW	Non-wetland waterway
OHWM	Ordinary high water mark
PACT	Preferred Alternative Collaboration Team
PEM	Palustrine emergent
PSS	Palustrine scrub-shrub
RTD	Regional Transportation District
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
U.S.	United States
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WRCC	Western Regional Climate Center

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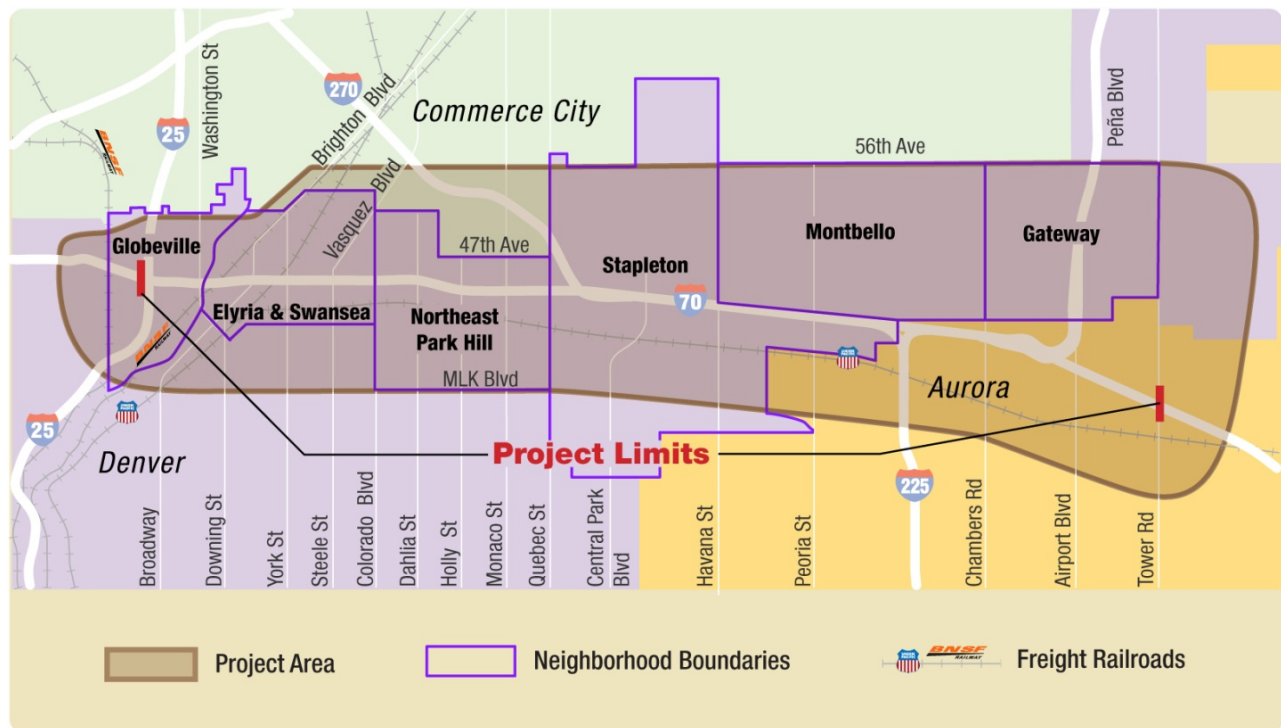
# 1. Introduction

The I-70 East Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a joint effort between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). The intent of the EIS is to identify potential highway improvements along I-70 in the Denver metropolitan area between I-25 and Tower Road and to assess their potential effects on the human and natural environment.

## 1.1. Project limits

As shown on Figure 1, the project limits extend along I-70 between I-25 and Tower Road. The project area covers portions of Denver, Commerce City, Aurora, and Adams County. This area includes the neighborhoods of Globeville, Elyria and Swansea, Northeast Park Hill, Stapleton, Montbello, and Gateway. The portion of Aurora in the project area is referred to as the Aurora Neighborhood in this report. Each resource has a specific study area based on the resource.

Figure 1. Project area



## 1.2. Project background

Analysis of I-70 began in June 2003 as part of the I-70 East Corridor EIS, a joint effort conducted by CDOT, FHWA, the Regional Transportation District (RTD), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the City and County of Denver (Denver). In June 2006, CDOT and RTD determined that the highway and transit elements of the I-70 East Corridor EIS process serve different travel markets, are located in different corridors, and have different funding sources. Therefore, the highway and transit components of the analysis were separated. After the project separation, the alternatives that made it through the screening process by addressing the purpose and need of the project were fully evaluated in the Draft EIS, published in November of 2008. With the release of the 2008 Draft EIS, the public and agencies had an opportunity to review and comment on it. Public hearings were held to present the information and encourage formal comments. Due to the complexity of the project and the extensive amount of public comments received during the formal

comment period, the project team decided to form the Preferred Alternative Collaborative Team (PACT) as part of a collaborative process with project stakeholders to recommend a preferred alternative. Through this collaborative process, additional analysis was performed, which resulted in the elimination of two previous alternatives and the addition of a new alternative option.

Because more than four years have passed since the 2008 Draft EIS was first published, many federal and state regulations and requirements have changed. Additional analysis and public involvement efforts were performed to determine the validity of the alternatives that were considered reasonable alternatives in the 2008 Draft EIS. Based on the public comments, the additional analysis, and the PACT collaborative process, the project team determined that the realignment alternatives were no longer reasonable. Consequently, a new alternative was designed to address the public concerns and incorporate their comments. Due to the changes in the alternatives, outdated census data, and new federal and state laws and regulations, the analysis in the 2008 Draft EIS was revisited and a Supplemental Draft EIS was written.

This report discusses wetlands and other waters of the U.S., including existing conditions in the corridor, resource effects analysis, and mitigation measures.

## 2. Resource definition

Wetlands are specifically defined as areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands boundaries are delineated by the presence of hydrophytic vegetation and soil, in addition to the presence of hydrologic indicators (33 CFR §328).

The term “waters of the U.S.” is generally defined as all waters that are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible in the future for use in interstate or foreign commerce. According to 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §328, this includes territorial seas, intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, wet meadows, natural ponds, and all tributaries of those waters. Waste treatment systems—including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act amendments of 1972 (Public Law Number [Pub. L. No.] 92-500), as amended by the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977 (33 United States Code [USC] §§1251–1387)—are not waters of the U.S. The boundaries of waters of the U.S., other than wetlands, are delineated by their bed, bank, and ordinary high water mark (OHWM).

All navigable waters, major rivers, and perennial creeks are considered to be under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdiction. Other water bodies, including wetlands and man-made features, are subject to review by the USACE to determine their jurisdiction.

## 3. Applicable laws, regulations, and guidance

This section discusses applicable laws, regulations, and guidance as they pertain to the analysis of wetlands and waters of the U.S.

### 3.1. Clean Water Act and Section 404 program

The primary vehicle for wetland protection and regulation in the United States is Section 404 of the CWA of 1977, which set the basic structure for regulating discharge of pollutants to waters of the U.S. This section established a program to regulate the discharge of dredged material and fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Anyone dredging or filling waters of the U.S. must request a permit from the USACE.

### **3.2. National Environmental Policy Act**

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 USC §4321 et seq., Pub. L. No. 91-190, 83 Stat. 852), requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision-making processes by considering the environmental effects of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions. NEPA also requires that agencies making such decisions consult with other agencies and involve the public, disclose information, investigate the environmental effects of a reasonable range of alternatives, and prepare a detailed statement of the environmental effects of the alternatives.

### **3.3. NEPA/Section 404 Merger Agreement**

The NEPA/Section 404 Merger Agreement was signed by CDOT, USACE, and FHWA in May 2003 and updated in August 2008. This agreement was established to determine a coordination and documentation protocol in situations where these agencies have authority over the same transportation project.

### **3.4. Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Commission, Regulation 82—Section 401 certification regulation**

Certification by the State of Colorado under Section 401 of the CWA is required for issuance of federal permits for projects that may result in a discharge to waters of the U.S. in Colorado. Through this regulation, the State of Colorado can ensure that the quality of Colorado's waterways is protected. At this time, this requirement applies to USACE individual Section 404 permits, but not nationwide permits (5 Code of Colorado Regulations [CCR] 1002-82).

### **3.5. Executive Order 11990—Protection of Wetlands**

President Carter issued Executive Order (EO) 11990, "Protection of Wetlands," in May 1977, establishing the protection of wetlands and riparian systems as the official policy of the federal government. EO 11990 requires all federal agencies to consider wetland protection as an important part of their policies.

### **3.6. Executive Order 11988—Floodplain Management**

EO 11988 requires all federal agencies to take actions to reduce the risk of loss due to flood; to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains while carrying out the following agency responsibilities:

- Acquiring, managing, and disposing of federal lands and facilities
- Funding construction or improvements
- Conducting activities or programs affecting land use

The EO also provides additional guidance to help agencies implement this initiative.

### **3.7. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended**

The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934, as amended (16 USC §§661-667e), states that whenever the waters or channel of a body of water are modified by a department or agency of the United States, the department or agency shall first consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and with the head of the agency exercising administration over the wildlife resources of the state where construction would occur, with a view to the conservation of wildlife resources. The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act provides that land, water, and interests may be acquired by federal agencies for wildlife conservation and development. In addition, real property under jurisdiction or control of a federal agency that is no longer required by that agency may be used for wildlife conservation by the state agency exercising administration over wildlife resources upon that property.



### **3.8. Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2005: A Legacy for Users**

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2005: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) prescribes a new environmental review process for highway, public transportation capital, and multimodal projects. The law specifies changes from current NEPA procedures, and it applies to all highway and transit EISs with a Notice of Intent published after August 11, 2005.

### **3.9. FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8A**

The FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8A states that when an alternative will impact wetlands, the EIS should identify the wetlands (including function), describe the impacts, evaluate alternatives that would avoid the wetlands, and identify practicable measures to minimize harm to the wetlands. The technical advisory continues by noting that during the impacts evaluation, the EIS should address the importance of the impacted wetlands and the severity of those impacts. This evaluation should consider several factors, including functionality, importance to the surrounding ecosystem, and uniqueness.

### **3.10. 23 Code of Federal Regulations Part 777, Mitigation of Impacts to Wetlands and Natural Habitat**

The purpose of this regulation is to provide policy and procedures for the evaluation and mitigation of adverse environmental impacts to wetlands and natural habitat resulting from federal-aid projects funded pursuant to provisions of title 23, USC. These policies and procedures shall be applied by FHWA to projects under the Federal Lands Highway Program to the extent that such application is deemed appropriate by FHWA (65 Federal Register [FR] 82924).

### **3.11. 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 230, Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources**

In April 2008, the USACE and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) jointly issued this regulation to establish performance standards and criteria for the use of permittee-responsible compensatory wetland mitigation, wetland mitigation banks, and in-lieu fee programs to improve the quality and success of compensatory wetland mitigation for impacts authorized by the Department of the Army (73 FR 19594).

### **3.12. 1990 Memorandum of Agreement Between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of the Army Concerning the Determination of Mitigation Under the Clean Water Act, Section 404(b)(1)**

The purpose of the EPA/Department of the Army Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) concerning mitigation under the CWA is to provide policy and procedures to help users determine the type and level of mitigation necessary to demonstrate compliance with Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA. The MOA also expresses the intent of the agreeing parties to meet the objective of the CWA to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of waters of the U.S., including wetlands.

### **3.13. Colorado Division of Wildlife and CDOT 2005 Memorandum of Agreement on the Administration and Implementation of Senate Bill 40**

In the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) and CDOT 2005 MOA on the Administration and Implementation of Senate Bill 40, CDOW and CDOT agreed that future transportation construction and maintenance activities described in Senate Bill 40 may be undertaken without written certification from



CDOW. The parties also agreed that all other activities that impact any stream or its banks or tributaries will require CDOW certification.

### **3.14. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wetlands delineation manuals**

The USACE *Wetlands Delineation Manual* (1987) provides technical guidelines for identifying wetlands and distinguishing them from aquatic habitats and other non-wetlands. The purpose of this manual is to provide users with guidelines and methods to determine whether an area is a wetland for purposes of Section 404 of the CWA. In 2010, the USACE came out with the final version of a regional supplement to the 1987 *Wetlands Delineation Manual* that is applicable to the project area. This regional supplement provides more specific guidance for the wetland delineations in the project area and is entitled, *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Great Plains Region* (USACE, 2010).

## **4. Existing conditions**

This section defines the methodology used to identify wetlands and waters of the U.S. and describes the existing conditions of those resources in the project area.

### **4.1. Methodology**

The following describes the methodologies used in this technical report.

#### **4.1.1. Wetland and non-wetland waterway determination**

Building on previous efforts in the corridor, an Atkins wetland scientist surveyed the project area for wetlands on September 1 and 2, 2012, November 6, 2012, and November 8, 2012. A Pinyon wetland scientist surveyed additional areas on April 12, 2013, and November 18, 2013. The *Corps of Engineer's Wetland Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory, 1987) and the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Great Plains Region* (USACE, 2010) guided the methods used onsite.

Vegetation was assessed at each wetland and upland sample point. The indicator status of vegetation was derived from the *National Wetland Plant List: Great Plains Region* (Lichvar, 2012). "Hydrophytic" qualifies where greater than 50 percent of the dominant plant species have an indicator status of obligate, facultative wet, and/or facultative vegetation cover. Upland qualifies where 50 percent or greater of the dominant plant species classify as upland and/or facultative upland vegetation cover.

Soil pits were excavated by hand and hydric soil indicators analyzed at most wetland and upland data points. Wetlands must meet the qualifications of at least one hydric soil indicator. This definition states that a hydric soil is a soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1994). There are 19 hydric soil indicators, including features such as soil matrix color depletions, inclusions of oxidation-reduction concentrations, or thick organic layers (NRCS, 2010). Soil types within the project area were obtained from the *Web Soil Survey* (NRCS, 2012). Soil types were not available within Denver County.

According to the Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC) (2012), the freeze-free period for 50 percent of the time at 28.5 degrees Fahrenheit at the Denver International Airport is roughly 180 days long. This is equivalent to the growing season defined by NRCS. Based on this information, the expected minimum duration needed for a site to exhibit wetland hydrology (e.g., soil saturation/inundation) is about 9 days, or 5 percent of the growing season. Primary and secondary hydrologic indicators were assessed at each wetland and upland sample point; the occurrences of one primary indicator or two secondary indicators are required to qualify the area as a wetland. There are 19 primary hydrology indicators, such as saturation within 12 inches of the ground surface, surface water, water table presence within 12 inches of the ground surface,

sulfidic odor (rotten egg odor), watermarks, drift deposits, and sediment deposits. There are nine secondary hydrology indicators, including water-stained leaves, drainage patterns, and a dry-season water table between 12 to 24 inches below the surface during the normal dry season (USACE, 2010).

The term non-wetland waterway (NWW) is a non-regulatory term used by Atkins to identify channels that have been scoured of vegetation below an OHWM, or exhibit a drainage pattern (water conveyance channel). NWW channels occur in rivers, streams (perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral), canals, ditches, and overflow channels. NWWs were mapped in a geographic information system (GIS) and observed during the field survey.

#### **4.1.2. Mapping**

Mapping was completed in the field and in the office between I-25 and Tower Road, generally within 50 feet of the existing edge of pavement or within 50 feet of the proposed construction limits. One exception to this is in the Sand Creek area, north of I-70, where the project area extends from I-70 northward to East 47th Avenue. Field mapping completed by Atkins and Pinyon in the project area was done using a Trimble GeoXT resource grade global positioning system (GPS), using the World Geodetic Survey 1984 datum. Points were taken at all sample points. Data were differentially corrected using Pathfinder Office 5.0 with base station data received from the continuously operating reference stations at CDOT in Golden, Colorado. GPS data accuracy was verified through comparison of data to observable features on the aerial photograph. Mapping in the office was completed by digitally tracing relevant features observed on recent aerial photography in a GIS. Unique wetland identifiers (i.e., labels) were created by sequentially numbering wetlands with each mile of I-70, based on milepost. For example, a wetland found between I-70 mileposts 278 and 279, was labeled 278-01; the second wetland found between mileposts 278 and 279 was labeled 278-02, and so on.

#### **4.1.3. Wetland classification and functional assessment**

Wetland functions were assessed using CDOT's Functional Assessment of Colorado Wetlands (FACWet) method (Johnson et al., 2011). FACWet is a rapid assessment methodology that rates wetland condition through evaluation of ecological stressors and their effects on nine state variables that drive wetland functioning. Stressors are used as indicators of functional impairment. Variables are rated on a scale of 0.1 (low) to 1.0 (high) according to the level of departure between their currently observed condition and their natural or reference standard condition. State variables then are related to the seven functions over which they have primary control and are used to index the capacity of seven societally important functions (Johnson et al., 2011). The following seven functions are evaluated by FACWet:

1. Support of characteristic wildlife habitat
2. Support of characteristic fish/aquatic habitat
3. Flood attenuation
4. Short- and long-term water storage
5. Nutrient/toxicant removal
6. Sediment retention/shoreline stabilization
7. Production export/food chain support

In general, the following scoring category descriptions apply to variable and function scores:

- 0.9–1.0      Reference standard
- 0.8–<0.9    Highly functioning
- 0.7–<0.8    Functioning
- 0.6–<0.7    Functioning impaired
- <0.6        Non-functioning

Wetlands were classified according to the hydrogeomorphic (HGM) classification method (Smith et al., 1995). Three criteria are used to identify HGM class: (1) geomorphic position (position in the landscape topography); (2) primary water source (precipitation, overbank surface flow, or groundwater); and (3) hydrodynamics (energy and direction of water flow through the wetland).

All wetlands also were classified into one or more of the wetland classifications used by the USFWS (Cowardin et al., 1979). These classifications include herbaceous palustrine emergent (PEM), palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS), palustrine forested, and aquatic bed (AB) (submerged or aquatic vegetation).

## **4.2. Findings**

This section presents the results of the wetland and other waters of the U.S. survey in the project area. Maps showing the location, extent, and projected impacts to waters of the U.S. are provided in Appendix A, photographs are provided in Appendix B, wetland delineation forms are provided in Appendix C, and FACWet forms are provided in Appendix D.

### **4.2.1. Wetlands**

A total of 38 wetlands, totaling roughly 6.3 acres, were identified within the project area (see Table 1). The USACE made a jurisdictional determination (NWO-2013-1163-DEN) on July 9, 2013, for 37 wetlands; the remaining wetland (WET-Culv02) was delineated after a jurisdictional request was made and the final jurisdictional determination will be made by the USACE (see Appendix E). However, at this time, it appears that jurisdictional wetlands (approximately 0.98 acre) occur along the South Platte River and Sand Creek, and that the remaining 5.32 acres of wetlands that are associated with stormwater detention basins or roadside ditches will likely be determined to be non-jurisdictional.

Wetlands within the project area were the floristically simple emergent and scrub-shrub wetlands typical of urban environments along the Front Range of Colorado. While the specific characteristics of the existing plant communities vary, commonly encountered plant species include cattails (*Typha* sp.), bulrushes (*Schoenoplectus* sp.), barnyard grass (*Echinochloa crus-galli*), spike rushes (*Eleocharis* sp.), smartweeds (*Polygonum* sp.), western dock (*Rumex crispus*), coyote willow (*Salix exigua*), and plains cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) trees (see Appendix C).

**Table 1. Summary of wetlands found within the project area**

Wetland ID	Figure No. <sup>a</sup>	Sample Point(s) <sup>b</sup>	Photo No. <sup>c</sup>	USFWS Type <sup>d</sup>	HGM Class <sup>e</sup>	JD	Size (acre)	Notes
WET-S Culv02	1	SP5	N/A	PEM	D	Juris. <sup>f</sup>	0.003	Stormwater basin
WET274-01	1	274-02	1	PEM/PSS	R	Juris.	**	S. Platte fringe
WET274-02	1	274-02	2	PEM	R	Juris.	0.021	S. Platte fringe
CDOT Wtln d Mit.Site	3	N/A	N/A	PEM	D	Juris.	0.171	Drains to Sand Creek
WET278-01	3	278-01	3	PEM	D	Juris.	0.019	Stormwater basin
WET278-02	3	278-02	4	PSS	R	Juris.	0.105	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-03	3	278-08	5	PEM	R	Juris.	0.085	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-04	3	278-08	6	PEM	R	Juris.	0.039	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-05	3	278-02	7	PSS	R	Juris.	0.103	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-06	3	278-02	8	PSS	R	Juris.	0.048	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-07	3	278-02	9	PSS	R	Juris.	0.129	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-08	3	278-08	10	PEM	R	Juris.	0.071	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-09	3	278-08	11	PEM	R	Juris.	0.095	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-10	3	278-02	12	PSS	R	Juris.	0.030	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-11	3	278-02	13	PSS	R	Juris.	0.027	Sand Creek fringe
WET278-12	3	278-02	14	PSS	R	Juris.	0.029	Sand Creek fringe
WET279-01	3	279-01	15	PEM	D	Non-juris.	1.338	Stormwater basin
WET279-02	4	279-02	16	PEM/PSS	D	Non-juris.	**	Stormwater basin
WET280-01	4	280-02	17	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.115	Stormwater basin
WET280-02	4	280-02	18	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.091	Stormwater basin
WET280-03	4	280-02	19	PEM	D	Non-juris.	**	Stormwater basin
WET280-04	5	280-04a,b	20	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.236	Stormwater basin
WET280-05	5	280-05	21	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.022	Roadside ditch
WET280-06	5	4-12-13	22	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.019	Roadside ditch

Wetland ID	Figure No. <sup>a</sup>	Sample Point(s) <sup>b</sup>	Photo No. <sup>c</sup>	USFWS Type <sup>d</sup>	HGM Class <sup>e</sup>	JD	Size (acre)	Notes
WET280-07	5	4-12-13	23	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.044	Roadside ditch
WET280-08	5	280-08	24	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.012	Roadside ditch
WET281-01	6	281-01	25	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.024	Roadside ditch
WET281-02	6	281-01	26	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.004	Roadside ditch
WET281-03	6	281-01	27	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.022	Roadside ditch
WET281-04	7	281-04	28	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.008	Roadside ditch
WET281-05	7	281-04	29	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.024	Roadside ditch
WET281-06	7	281-04	30	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.013	Roadside ditch
WET281-07	8	281-07a,b	31	PEM/PSS	D	Non-juris.	0.521	Stormwater basin
WET282-01	9	282-01	32, 33	PEM/PSS	D	Non-juris.	2.609	Stormwater basin
WET284-01	10	284-01	34	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.148	Roadside ditch
WET285-01	11	285-01	35	PEM	R	Non-juris.	0.010	Roadside ditch
WET285-02	11	285-02	36	PSS	R	Non-juris.	0.034	Roadside ditch
WET285-03	12	285-03	37	PEM	R	Non-juris.	0.003	Roadside ditch
WET285-04	12	285-04	38	PEM	R	Non-juris.	0.012	Roadside ditch
WET285-05	12	285-05	39	PSS	R	Non-juris.	**	Roadside ditch
WET285-06	12	285-06	40	PEM	D	Non-juris.	0.015	Roadside ditch
<b>Total</b>							<b>6.299</b>	

<sup>a</sup> Figures are provided in Appendix A. Note that construction limits shown on the figures generally represent both General-Purpose and Managed Lanes Options. However, worst-case scenario construction limits (Managed Lanes Option) is reflected on all figures east of Colorado Boulevard.

<sup>b</sup> Data forms are provided in Appendix C.

<sup>c</sup> Photographs are provided in Appendix B.

<sup>d</sup> PEM = palustrine emergent; PSS = palustrine scrub-shrub. After Cowardin et al., 1979.

<sup>e</sup> D = depressional; R = riverine. After Smith et al. (1995).

<sup>f</sup> This wetland was delineated after a formal jurisdictional determination was made for the remaining 37 wetlands; therefore, this determination is preliminary. USACE will make the final jurisdictional determination for this wetland.

\*\* The wetland boundaries are outside of the project area. These wetlands were delineated in the field but occur outside of the designated project area. They are included here for completeness; however, the acreages of these wetlands are not included in project totals.

Wetland hydrology of wetlands found along the South Platte River and Sand Creek is supported primarily by overbank flooding. At Sand Creek, the alluvial aquifer also appears to be supporting wetland hydrology. In the stormwater detention ponds and roadside ditches, the wetland hydrology is supported primarily by precipitation and associated stormwater runoff, though groundwater also may be contributing to hydrology at some locations.

The two small wetlands that occur as a narrow fringe along the South Platte are considered to be functioning at such a low level that they may as well be non-functional (see Table 2). All other wetlands are considered to be functionally impaired, with the exception of two roadside ditches considered to be functioning. Consistent for all sites, the reason for these low levels of functionality is directly attributed to their occurrence in Denver's urban environment. Though they may have a low level of functionality compared to their reference standards, these wetlands are providing several important functions. For example, stormwater and

roadside ditch wetlands provide an important nutrient/toxicant removal function, and though they are degraded, the wetlands along Sand Creek are important wildlife habitat to resident wildlife.

**Table 2. Summary of wetland functions performed by wetlands in project area**

Assessment Area Grouping	Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat	Support of Characteristic Fish/Aquatic Habitat	Flood Attenuation	Short- and Long-Term Water Storage	Nutrient/Toxicant Removal	Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization	Production Export/Food Chain Support	Composite Functional Capacity Index (FCI) Score
South Platte fringe	0.360	0.489	0.444	0.483	0.475	0.400	0.457	0.444
Sand Creek	0.652	0.654	0.652	0.657	0.660	0.668	0.664	0.658
Stormwater	0.628	0.689	0.681	0.692	0.675	0.652	0.677	0.670
Globeville Landing Park spillway (WET-Culv02)	0.640	0.710	0.710	0.730	0.690	0.680	0.670	0.690
Roadside ditches WET280-05, WET281-01 to 281-06, WET284-01, and WET285-01 to 281-06	0.660	0.606	0.606	0.600	0.613	0.620	0.643	0.621
Roadside ditch WET280-06	0.630	0.750	0.720	0.760	0.620	0.710	0.740	0.700
Roadside ditch WET280-07	0.620	0.760	0.720	0.770	0.620	0.720	0.760	0.710
Roadside ditch WET280-08	0.540	0.740	0.690	0.750	0.600	0.630	0.680	0.660

*FACWet scoring: 0.9–1.0 reference standard; 0.8–<0.9 highly functioning; 0.7–<0.8; functioning; 0.6–<0.7 functioning impaired, <0.6 non-functioning.*

#### 4.2.2. Other waters of the U.S.

Three waters of the U.S. other than wetlands were identified in the project area: the South Platte River (OW274-01, OW-N\_Culv, and OW-S\_Culv), an existing spillway stormwater basin at Globeville Landing Park (OW-Culv02), and Sand Creek (OW278-01). Roughly 0.602 acre of the South Platte River channel and 4.183 acres of the Sand Creek river channel occur in the project area. Both rivers are perennial, sand bed streams that generally flow in a northerly direction. The existing spillway in Globeville Landing Park includes a stormwater detention pond (approximately 0.022 acre), which is connected to the South Platte River by surface water flow.



## 5. Description of alternatives

The I-70 East Supplemental Draft EIS examines potential effects to social, environmental, and economic resources resulting from proposed improvements to I-70 between I-25 and Tower Road. Consistent with federal regulations, the Supplemental Draft EIS fully evaluates potential effects that might result from the No-Action Alternative and the Build Alternatives (Revised Viaduct Alternative and Partial Cover Lowered Alternative). The alternatives and options are presented in Table 3.

For more detail on the alternatives and their options; see the *I-70 East Supplemental Draft EIS Alternative Analysis Technical Report* (2014).

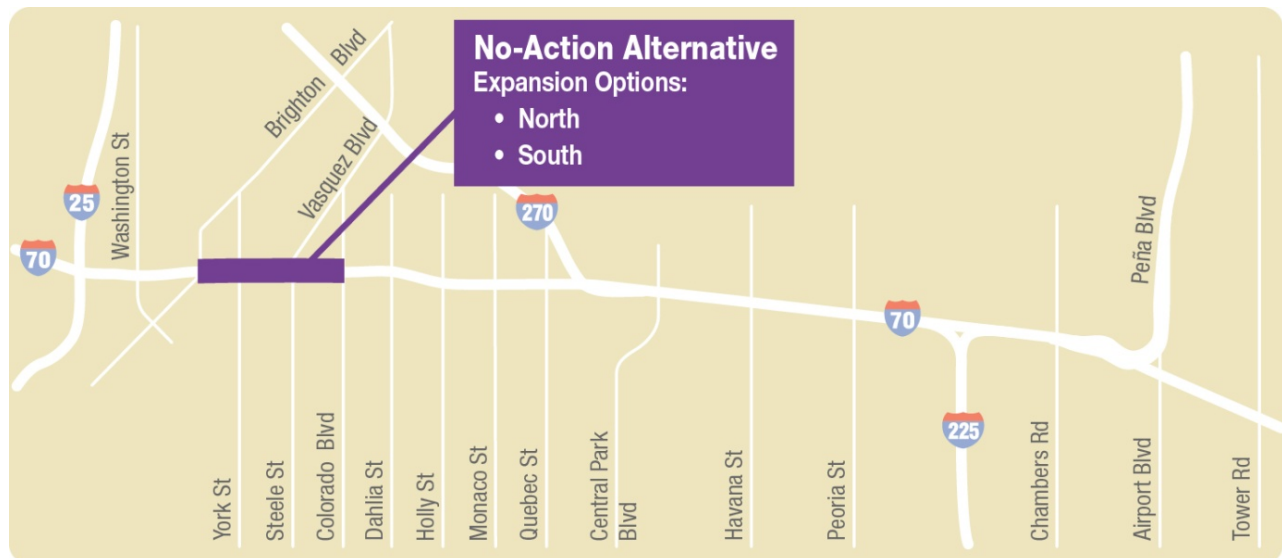
**Table 3. Alternatives and Options**

Alternative		Expansion Options	Connectivity Options	Operational Options
No-Action		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North</li> <li>• South</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A
Build Alternatives	Revised Viaduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North</li> <li>• South</li> </ul>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General-Purpose Lanes</li> <li>• Managed Lanes</li> </ul>
	Partial Cover Lowered	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic</li> <li>• Modified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General-Purpose Lanes</li> <li>• Managed Lanes</li> </ul>

### No-Action Alternative

The No-Action Alternative replaces the existing viaduct between Brighton Boulevard and Colorado Boulevard without adding any capacity; the remainder of the corridor will reflect current conditions and include existing, planned, and programmed roadway and transit improvements (such as FasTracks) in the study area. The No-Action Alternative is shown in Figure 2.

**Figure 2. No-Action Alternative**



## Build Alternatives

Build Alternatives add capacity to I-70 by constructing additional lane(s) or restriping between I-25 and Tower Road.

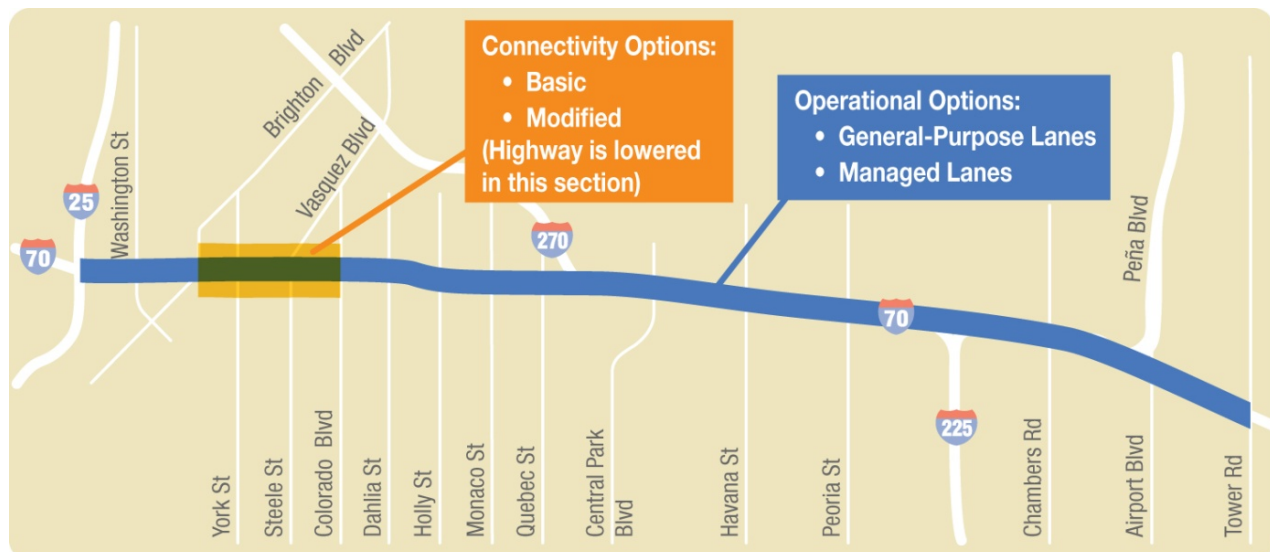
**Revised Viaduct Alternative.** The Revised Viaduct Alternative is shown in Figure 3. This alternative replaces the existing I-70 viaduct between Brighton Boulevard and Colorado Boulevard. It adds two additional lanes in each direction from Brighton Boulevard to Tower Road. It also adds capacity from I-25 to Brighton Boulevard.

**Figure 3. Revised Viaduct Alternative**



**Partial Cover Lowered Alternative.** The Partial Cover Lowered Alternative is shown in Figure 4. This alternative removes the existing I-70 viaduct between Brighton Boulevard and Colorado Boulevard, lowering the highway below grade in this area, while adding two additional lanes in each direction from Brighton Boulevard to Tower Road. This alternative includes a cover over the highway between Clayton Street and Columbine Street. The alternative also adds capacity from I-25 to Brighton Boulevard.

**Figure 4. Partial Cover Lowered Alternative**





## Alternative Options

**Expansion Options.** Expansion Options, shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3, refer to moving the north edge of the highway north or the south edge of the highway south of the existing facility from Brighton Boulevard to Colorado Boulevard to accommodate the larger footprint resulting from standard width lanes, expanded shoulders, and construction phasing. These options apply to the No-Action Alternative and the Revised Viaduct Alternative. The Partial Cover Lowered Alternative does not include the Expansion Options because expansion of the highway can occur only on the north side due to engineering restrictions and the location of the UPRR rail yard to the south.

**Connectivity Options.** Connectivity Options are shown in Figure 4 and apply only to the Partial Cover Lowered Alternative. They include different frontage road and highway cover combinations. The Basic Option includes a highway cover between Clayton Street and Columbine Street, with 46th Avenue operating as a one-way road on each side of the highway (westbound on the north side and eastbound on the south side). The Modified Option removes the Steele Street/Vasquez Boulevard interchange to include an additional cover in the vicinity of Steele Street. 46th Avenue is designed as a two-way street on both the north and south sides of the highway; however, it is discontinued between Clayton Street and Columbine Street on the north side to allow for a seamless connection between Swansea Elementary School and the cover. Vehicular north/south connectivity across the highway at Josephine Street will be eliminated and replaced with a bike/pedestrian bridge. Additional connectivity and intersection improvements are discussed in Chapter 3, Summary of Project Alternatives, in the Supplemental Draft EIS.

**Operational Options.** Operational Options include two scenarios on how the additional capacity will be managed and operated. The General-Purpose Lanes Option will allow all vehicles to use all the lanes on the highway, while the Managed Lanes Option implements operational strategies (such as pricing) for the additional lanes that would be adjusted based on real-time traffic demand for vehicles that use these lanes. The additional lanes are separated with a four-foot buffer from the rest of the lanes under the Managed Lanes Option, and they have direct connections to I-225, I-270, and Peña Boulevard. Operational Options apply to the Revised Viaduct Alternative and the Partial Cover Lowered Alternative, and they are shown in Figure 3 and Figure 4.

## 6. Effects analysis

This section analyzes potential environmental consequences that would result from the loss of wetland habitat from the project alternatives. As stated in the existing conditions section, the wetlands present in the project area were identified in the field. This determination of effects is based on conceptual design and is subject to change.

### 6.1. Methodology

Impacts can occur directly or indirectly and be temporary or permanent. Direct impacts are the result of the physical destruction or degradation of a resource within a proposed project alternative. An example of a direct impact is the excavation and grading of wetland habitat during road construction. Indirect impacts are foreseeable effects that are somewhat distant from the project in time and/or space (see 40 CFR §1508.8). A relatively common example of an indirect impact is the introduction and establishment of noxious weeds on newly disturbed soils. The noxious weeds become established and begin to out-compete native plant species, eventually leading to the degradation of wetland habitats.

Temporary impacts are short-term and are usually restored to pre-impact functionality within five years. When not permanent, impacts to emergent wetlands are often considered short-term because these communities recover more quickly than plant communities possessing a woody plant component.

Permanent impacts are those impacts where a complete change in functionality occurs (i.e., land conversion) and persist for the lifetime of the facility. Permanent effects result from construction activities, specifically placement of bridge piers, fill, and new roadway. Temporary effects include those that temporarily alter the function of waters of the U.S. due to modification or disturbance during construction. These effects result from vegetation removal, soil exposure, and construction activities taking place in or adjacent to wetlands. These effects can be mitigated and returned to their pre-construction condition after conclusion of construction activities, if proper management is applied.

Projected impacts to waters of the U.S. were calculated by overlaying the construction footprint over the wetland polygons in a GIS environment. Permanent impacts were assumed to occur where the overlap occurs between the construction footprint and the wetland polygons unless additional information about the projected impacts was available. Such specifics were available for the design or in-construction techniques for the proposed outfalls on the South Platte River and for the proposed on and off ramp bridges over Sand Creek, but were not available for other locations. Temporary impacts also were calculated, where appropriate, by using a 10-foot offset from the projected construction limits.

## **6.2. Effects of alternatives**

As described previously in Section 5, Description of Alternatives, the Supplemental Draft EIS evaluates one No-Action Alternative and two Build Alternatives. This section describes the potential effects on wetlands and other waters of the U.S. from these alternatives.

### **6.2.1. No-Action Alternative**

The No-Action Alternative would have no impacts to wetlands. However, construction of the onsite storm drain outfall north of I-70 would result in impacts to other waters of the U.S. The storm drain outfall would traverse the Burlington Ditch/O'Brien Canal and discharge into the South Platte River. Construction of the outfall would result in approximately 0.001 acre of temporary impact to the South Platte River channel.

### **6.2.2. Build Alternatives**

The Build Alternatives permanently impact wetlands and other waters of the U.S. Roughly 4.111 acres of direct, permanent impact to wetlands would occur under the Build Alternatives. Of this total, an estimated 0.001 acre of jurisdictional wetland along Sand Creek would be impacted, with the remaining 4.110 acres of permanent impact occurring to non-jurisdictional roadside ditch and stormwater detention pond wetlands (see Table 4 and Table 5); note that only wetlands or water bodies impacted by the proposed project are shown in the tables).

Temporary impacts to wetlands also would occur. Approximately 0.1 acre of temporary impact to jurisdictional wetlands is projected to occur under all Build Alternatives. Roughly 0.195 acre of temporary impact would occur to non-jurisdictional wetlands under the Build Alternatives.

Construction of the Build Alternatives would result in impacts to Sand Creek and the South Platte River. Both of the Build Alternatives are anticipated to impact the Sand Creek channel by a total of 0.0001 acre permanently and 1.194 acres temporarily. The permanent impact would be caused by the installation of a bridge pier. At the South Platte River, impacts in the river channel would occur from storm drain construction north and south of I-70. As with the No-Action Alternative, both Build Alternatives would cause approximately 0.001 acre of temporary impact to the South Platte River channel as a result of the onsite outfall system construction. With the Partial Cover Lowered Alternative, an additional 0.012 acre of permanent impact to the South Platte River channel would result from construction of an offsite outfall system south of I-70 (see Table 5) note that only water bodies impacted by the proposed project are shown in the table).

**Table 4. Impacts to wetlands in the study area<sup>1</sup>**

Jurisdictional or Non-Jurisdictional	Feature	Build Alternatives	
		Perm.	Temp.
<b>Jurisdictional</b> (Sand Creek and Fringe)	WET278-09	0.001	0.066
	WET278-10	—	0.005
	WET278-11	—	0.014
	WET278-12	—	0.015
<b>Jurisdictional Total</b>		<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.100</b>
<b>Non-Jurisdictional</b> (Stormwater basins)	WET279-01	1.053	0.095
	WET280-01	0.005	0.012
	WET280-02	0.008	0.012
	WET280-04	0.236	—
	WET281-07	0.094	0.068
<b>Non-Jurisdictional</b> (Stormwater basins)	WET282-01	2.609	—
<b>Non-Jurisdictional</b> (Roadside ditches)	WET280-05	0.001	0.005
	WET280-08	0.012	—
	WET281-01	0.024	—
	WET281-02	0.004	—
	WET281-03	0.022	—
	WET281-04	0.008	—
	WET281-05	0.024	—
	WET281-06	0.010	0.003
	WET284-01	—	—
	WET285-02	—	—
<b>Non-Jurisdictional Total (wetlands only)</b>		<b>4.110</b>	<b>0.195</b>
<b>Total Wetland Impacts (jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional)</b>		<b>4.111</b>	<b>0.295</b>

*Note: Impacts were calculated based on conceptual design as of March 2013 and are subject to change.*

*<sup>1</sup>The No-Action Alternative has no wetland impacts; therefore, this table only reflects the Build Alternatives and associated options.*

**Table 5. Impacts<sup>1</sup> to other waters of the U.S. in the study area (all jurisdictional)**

Waterbody	Feature ID	No-Action Alternative (acres)		Revised Viaduct Alternative (acres)		Partial Cover Lowered Alternative (acres)	
		Perm.	Temp.	Perm.	Temp.	Perm.	Temp.
South Platte River	OW-N_Culv	—	0.001	—	0.001	—	0.001
	OW-S_Culv	—	—	—	—	0.012	—
Sand Creek	OW278-01	—	—	0.0001	1.194	0.0001	1.194
<b>Total Other Waters of the U.S. Impacts</b>		—	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.0001</b>	<b>1.195</b>	<b>0.012</b>	<b>1.195</b>

*Note: Impacts were calculated based on conceptual design and are subject to change.*

<sup>1</sup>Impact totals are applicable to all options associated with the No-Action and Build Alternatives.

### 6.3. Permitting

In the event that either Build Alternative is selected, roughly 0.001 to 0.0 acre of jurisdictional waters of the U.S. would be permanently impacted. USACE would be consulted on the appropriate permit, but this type of activity often is permitted under Nationwide Permit 14—Linear Transportation Projects. In addition, Senate Bill 40 certification from Colorado Parks and Wildlife and completion of an internal Wetland Finding also would be required. CDOT would complete the Senate Bill 40 certification, complete the Wetland Finding, and obtain a permit from the USACE prior to commencing work.

### 6.4. NEPA/Section 404 coordination

CDOT is currently coordinating with USACE to fulfill the requirements of the NEPA/CWA merger process.

## 7. Mitigation

Per CDOT guidelines, all permanently impacted wetlands, both jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional, would be replaced at a 1:1 ratio. At this time, it is planned that unavoidable impacts would be mitigated at a wetland mitigation bank in the South Platte River watershed. In addition, the following mitigation measures would be implemented during and after construction of a preferred alternative to avoid or minimize effects to wetlands and other waters of the U.S.:

- Temporary erosion control and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) will be installed prior to ground disturbance activities. Completed areas will be permanently stabilized within seven days. The following BMPs are proposed:
  - Unnecessary temporary effects would be avoided by fencing the limits of disturbance during construction.
  - No equipment staging or storage of construction materials will occur within 50 feet of wetlands.
  - The use of chemicals—such as soil stabilizers, dust inhibitors, and fertilizers—within 50 feet of wetlands will be prohibited.
  - Temporary fill material will not be stored within wetlands.
  - No discharge of effluent into wetlands will occur.

- All areas of exposed soil will be seeded and/or planted, and mulched throughout construction (following completion of each section). Mulch and mulch tackifier will be placed for temporary erosion control when seeding and/or planting cannot occur due to seasonal constraints.
- If any wetland areas are used for construction access, they will be covered with a layer of geotextile, straw, and soil prior to use.
- Wetlands temporarily affected during construction will be restored to pre-construction conditions.

All contractors would be required to consider methods, where feasible, to limit the effects of construction to water resources, including the following:

- Install perimeter erosion control measures prior to grading.
- Implement stabilization BMPs, such as mulching, temporary seeding, and erosion control blankets.
- Wash concrete trucks in designated concrete washout areas at least 50 feet away from surface water sources.
- Build stabilized construction entrances to the site to limit mud and dirt deposition on local roadways.
- Use erosion prevention measures to prevent the need for extensive erosion control (measures such as staging the construction to reduce disturbance, minimizing access areas, temporary seeding, early final grading and seeding of completed areas, and clean water diversions). Permanent water quality ponds can be constructed early and used for construction runoff.
- Roughen disturbed surfaces throughout construction.
- Use temporary sediment control features, such as silt fence, erosion logs, and erosion bales.
- Place permanent native seeding incrementally throughout project.
- Place temporary stabilization (mulch and mulch tackifier, soil binder) when native seeding is not allowed due to seasonal constraints.
- Comply with local and federal permitting requirements for construction within floodplains.
- Limit the size of construction areas.
- Apply geotextile fabric before construction of temporary crane pads.
- Use rubber tire construction equipment, when feasible.
- When necessary, set up gravel barriers around work area when installing piers or working within the South Platte River or Sand Creek to divert water flow and prevent sediment in the channel.
- Install perimeter sediment control devices, such as erosion bales and/or silt fencing.
- Follow the spill prevention and containment procedures outlined in the spill prevention plan included within the construction stormwater management plan.
- Inspect erosion and sediment control measures at least every 14 days and after precipitation events that cause surface erosion.
- Avoid ground-disturbing activities or work near streams during heavy precipitation events.
- Till soils that have been compacted by heavy construction equipment to allow for quicker establishment of vegetation.
- Sequence ground clearing so the entire site is not disturbed at once; stabilization of a cleared site should occur as soon as construction activity is completed.
- Temporarily seed or mulch areas that will not be regraded within seven days.
- Use central staging areas for all equipment and disposal of waste material; these staging areas should not be located within 50 feet of streams, wetlands, or sensitive habitat areas.

- Manage waste stockpiles of concrete, solids, sanitary/septic materials, liquids, and hazardous materials through implementation of waste management BMPs.
- Locate temporary sanitation facilities no less than 50 feet from waterways to reduce the effect of potential releases.
- Use a vacuum sweeper immediately to sweep cutting dust after concrete cutting operations.
- Construct and use stabilized construction entrances/exits to reduce mud and dirt deposition on local roadways.
- Construct temporary water quality basins where right of way allows.
- Use certified weed free mulch and hay bales in accordance with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act (CRS 35-5.5).
- Reseed disturbed areas with a native grass mix that also includes forbs and shrubs. The seed mix will include oats (*Avena sativa*) that will be applied at a low rate to facilitate soil stabilization while native species are establishing.
- Stabilize all slopes steeper than 3:1 with erosion control blankets.
- Construct near major streams during the drier months, from October to February. Based on hydrograph data collected by the WRCC, Denver receives less than 1 inch of precipitation during these months.
- Follow the sanding and sweeping requirements of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Regulation Number 16, vacuum sweepers will be used to remove sand remaining after a sanding event.

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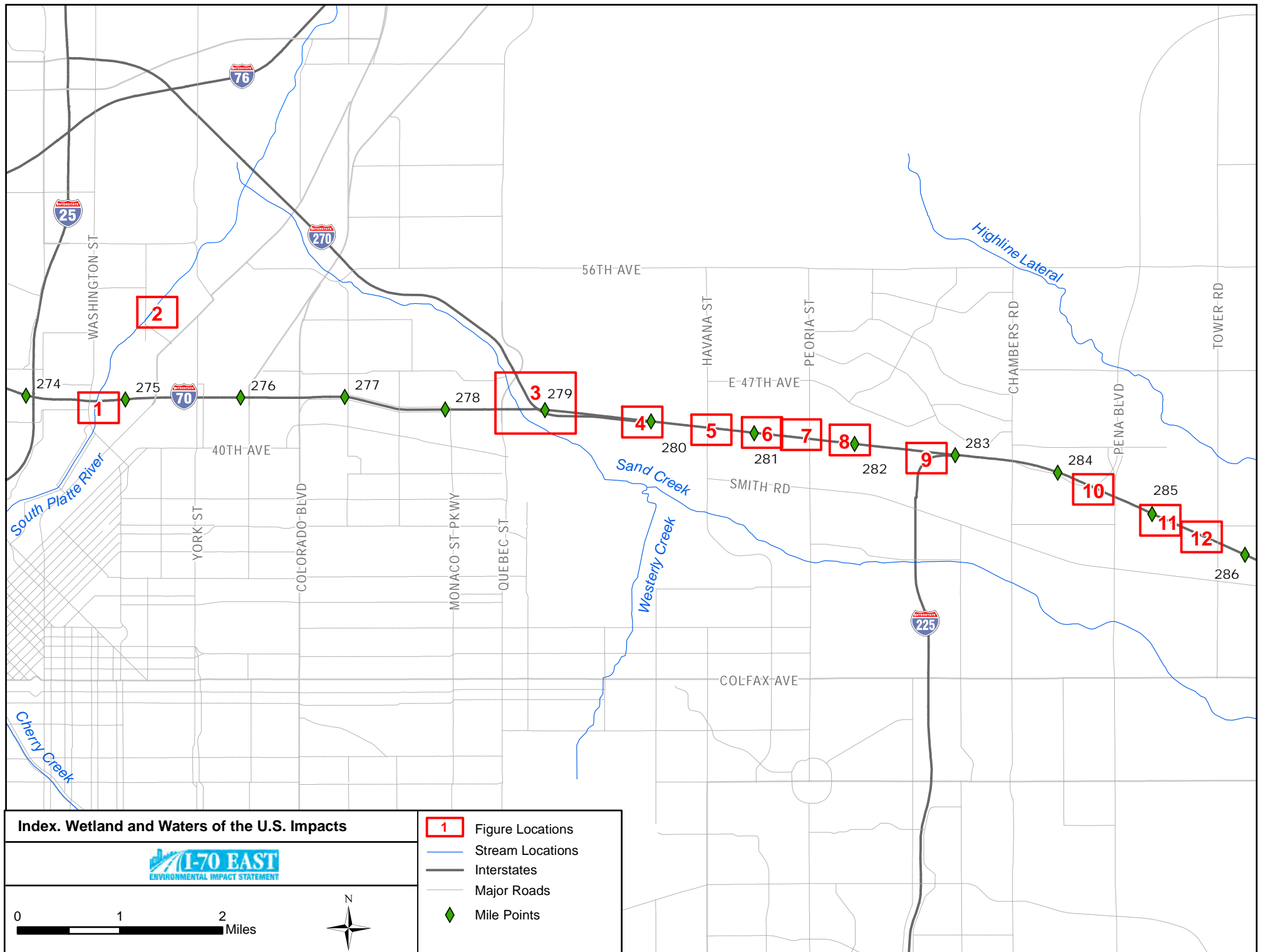
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# **Attachment N – Appendix A Figures**









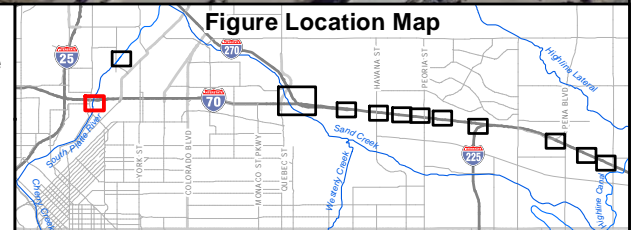
**Figure 1. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**



0 300 600 Feet



	Study Area		Open Water
	Construction Limits		Cottonwood Mitigation Site
	Impact Area		Wetland Mitigation Site
	Wetland Within Study Area		Sample Point
	Wetland Outside Study Area		Milepost
	Riparian		







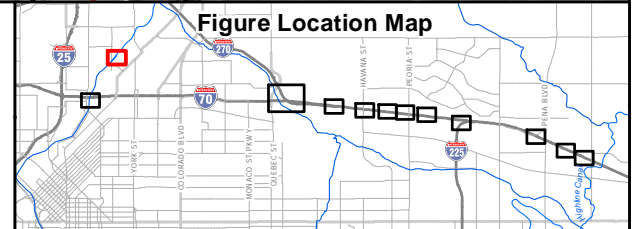
**Figure 2. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**



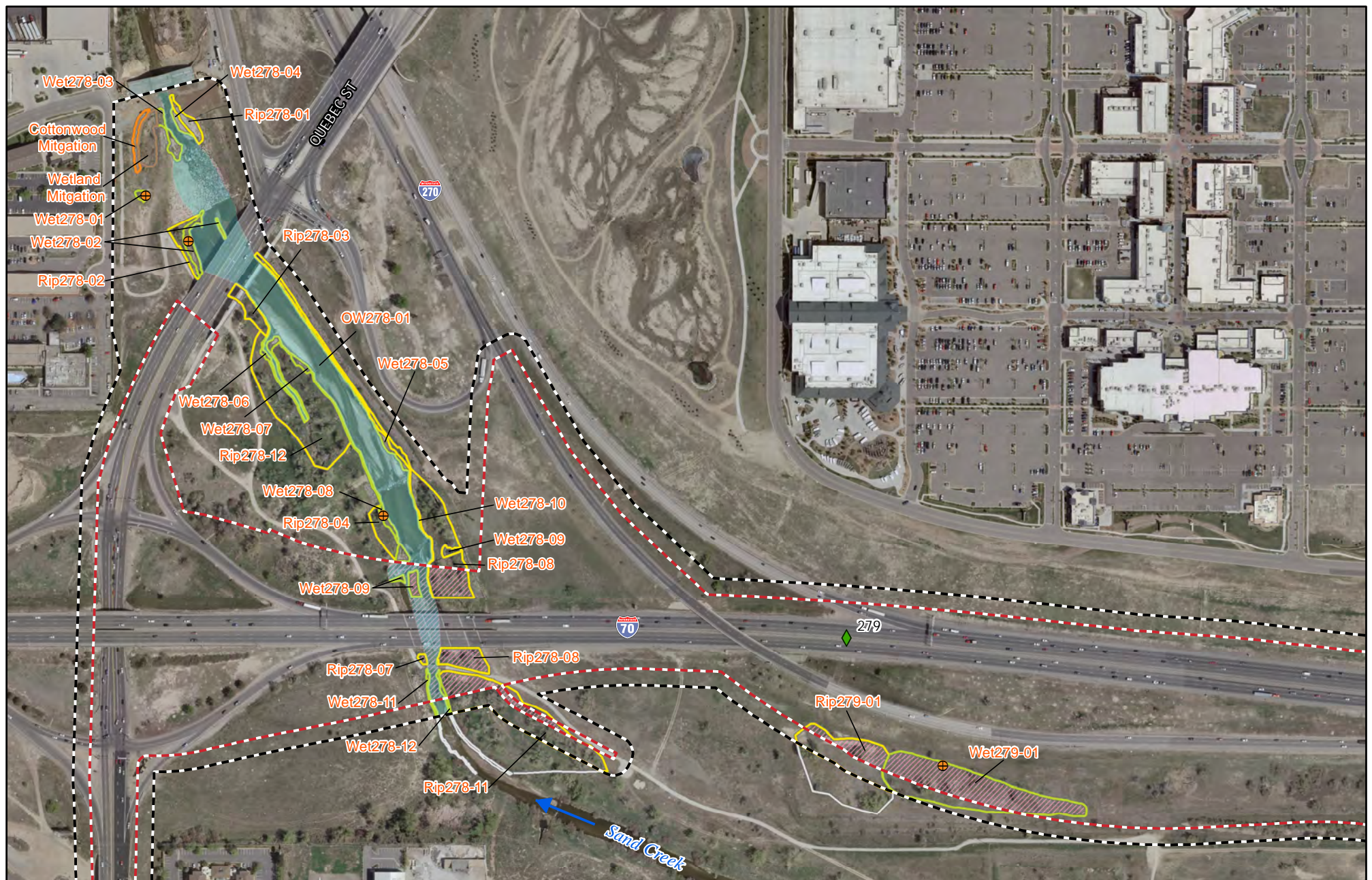
0 200 400 Feet



	Study Area		Open Water
	Construction Limits		Cottonwood Mitigation Site
	Impact Area		Wetland Mitigation Site
	Wetland Within Study Area		Sample Point
	Wetland Outside Study Area		Milepost
	Riparian		







**Figure 3. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**

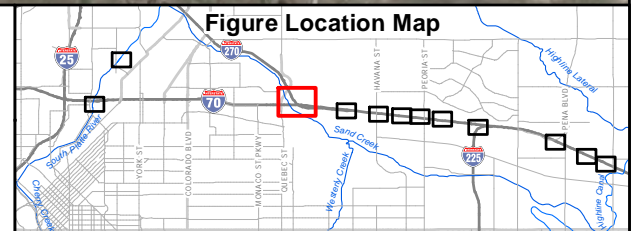


0 400 800 Feet



- Study Area
- Construction Limits
- Impact Area
- Wetland Within Study Area
- Wetland Outside Study Area
- Riparian

- Open Water
- Cottonwood Mitigation Site
- Wetland Mitigation Site
- ⊕ Sample Point
- ◆ Milepost







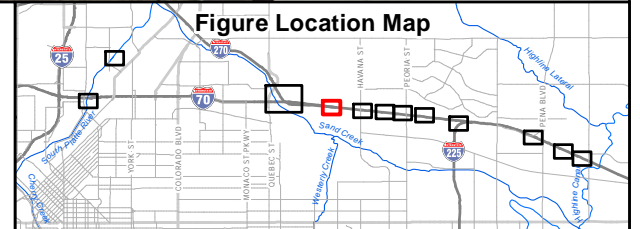
**Figure 4. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**



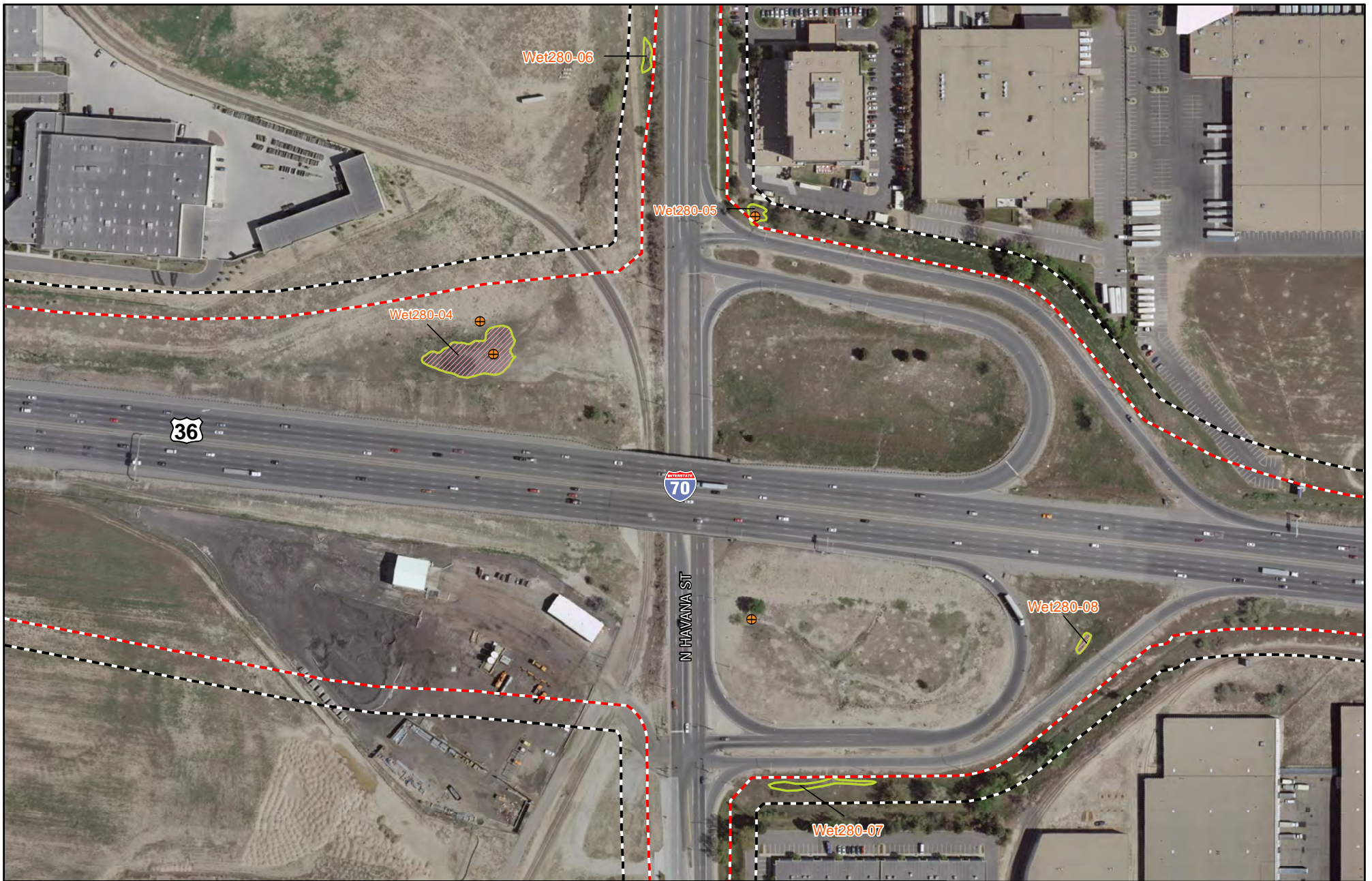
0 200 400 Feet



	Study Area		Open Water
	Construction Limits		Cottonwood Mitigation Site
	Impact Area		Wetland Mitigation Site
	Wetland Within Study Area		Sample Point
	Wetland Outside Study Area		Milepost
	Riparian		







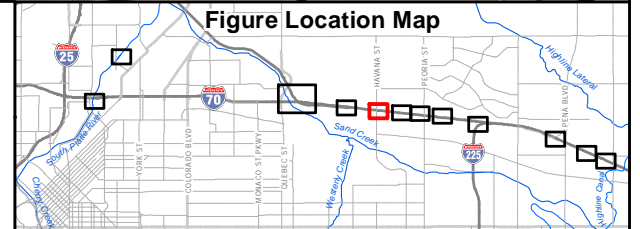
**Figure 5. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**



0 250 500 Feet



	Study Area		Open Water
	Construction Limits		Cottonwood Mitigation Site
	Impact Area		Wetland Mitigation Site
	Wetland Within Study Area		Sample Point
	Wetland Outside Study Area		Milepost
	Riparian		







**Figure 6. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**

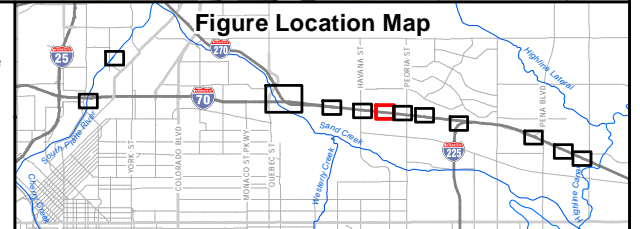


0 200 400 Feet



- Study Area
- Construction Limits
- Impact Area
- Wetland Within Study Area
- Wetland Outside Study Area
- Riparian

- Open Water
- Cottonwood Mitigation Site
- Wetland Mitigation Site
- ⊕ Sample Point
- ◆ Milepost











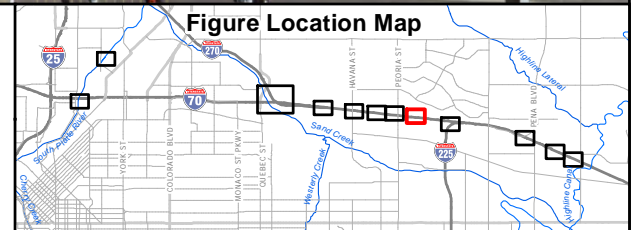
**Figure 8. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**



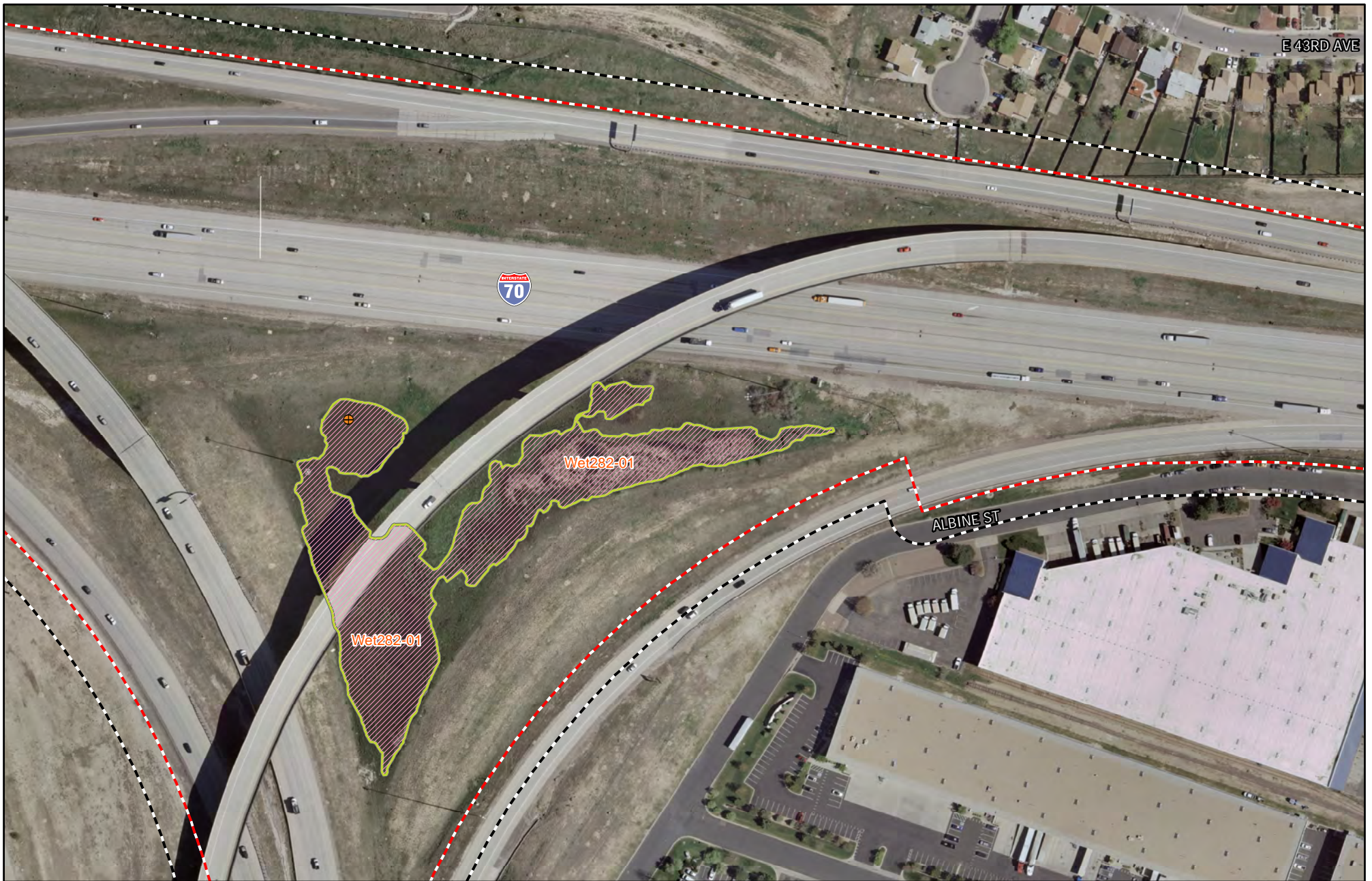
0 200 400 Feet



- |  |                            |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|
|  | Study Area                 |  | Open Water                 |
|  | Construction Limits        |  | Cottonwood Mitigation Site |
|  | Impact Area                |  | Wetland Mitigation Site    |
|  | Wetland Study Area         |  | Sample Point               |
|  | Wetland Outside Study Area |  | Milepost                   |
|  | Riparian                   |  |                            |







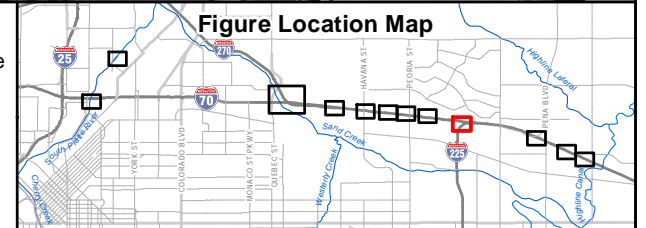
**Figure 9. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**

**I-70 EAST**  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

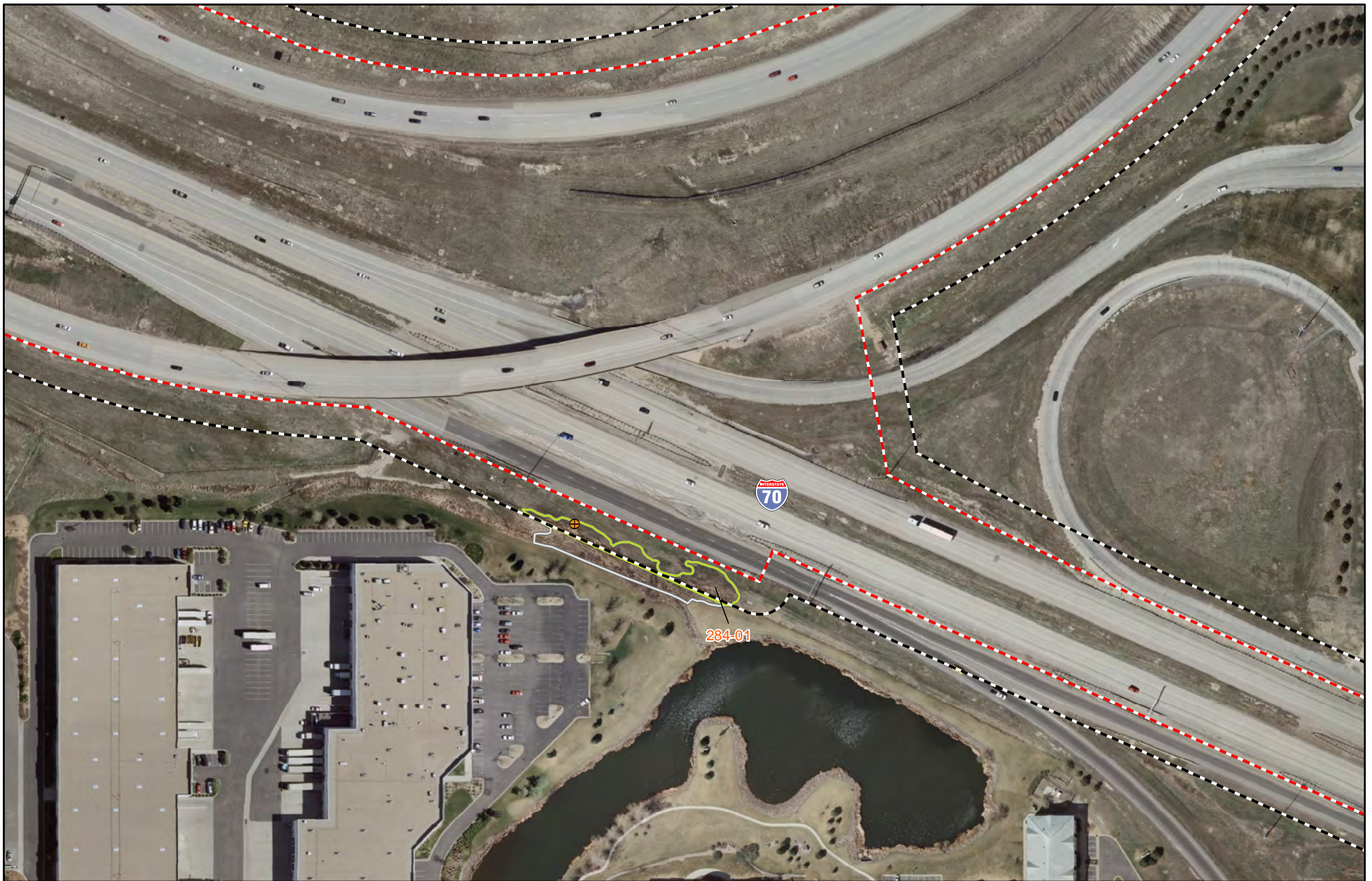
0 200 400 Feet



	Study Area		Open Water
	Construction Limits		Cottonwood Mitigation Site
	Impact Area		Wetland Mitigation Site
	Wetland Within Study Area		Sample Point
	Wetland Outside Study Area		Milepost
	Riparian		







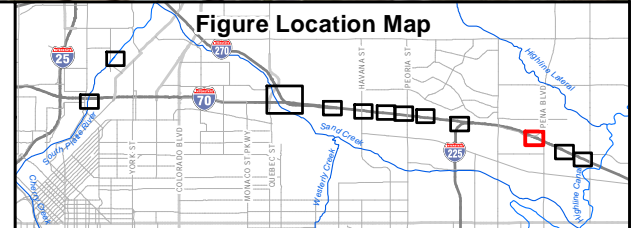
**Figure 10. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**



0 200 400 Feet



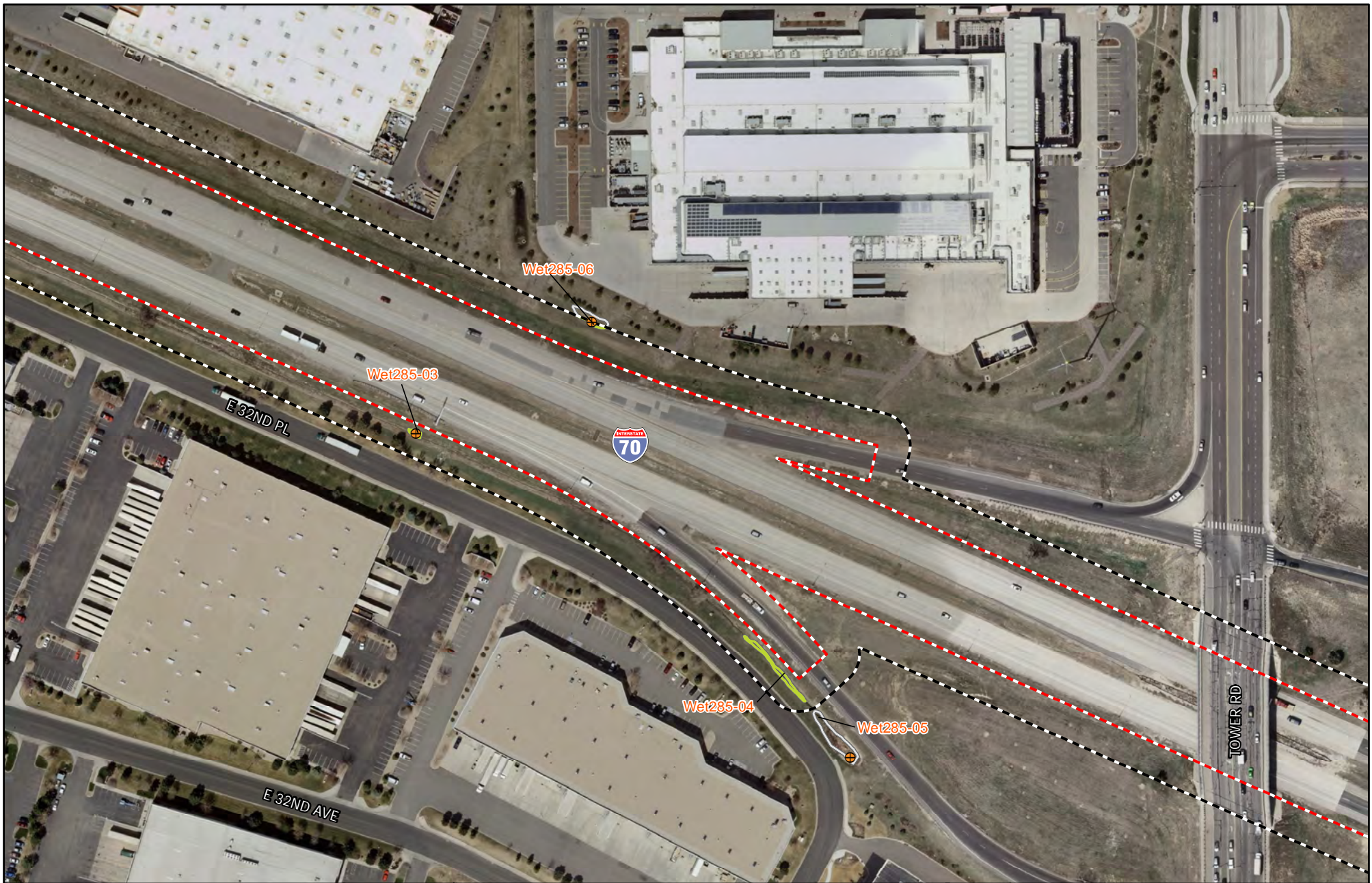
- |  |                            |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|
|  | Study Area                 |  | Open Water                 |
|  | Construction Limits        |  | Cottonwood Mitigation Site |
|  | Impact Area                |  | Wetland Mitigation Site    |
|  | Wetland Within Study Area  |  | Sample Point               |
|  | Wetland Outside Study Area |  | Milepost                   |
|  | Riparian                   |  |                            |











**Figure 12. Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Impacts**

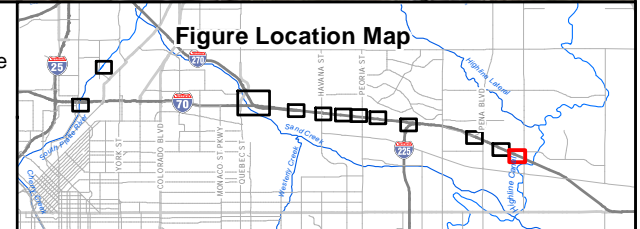


0 200 400 Feet



- Project Area
- Construction Limits
- Impact Area
- Wetland Within Study Area
- Wetland Outside Study Area
- Riparian

- Open Water
- Cottonwood Mitigation Site
- Wetland Mitigation Site
- ⊕ Sample Point
- ◆ Milepost







# **Attachment N – Appendix B**

## **Photographs**





**Photo 1.** Wetland WET274-01 – South Platte River wetland fringe on left bank north of I-70.



**Photo 2.** Wetland WET274-02 – South Platte River wetland fringe on right bank south of I-70.



**Photo 3.** Wetland WET278-01 – Stormwater basin near Sand Creek.



**Photo 4.** Wetland WET278-02 – Sand Creek wetland fringe on left bank downstream of Quincy Avenue Bridge.



**Photo 5.** Wetland WET278-03 – Sand Creek wetland fringe on left bank, facing downstream (north)



**Photo 6.** Wetland WET278-04 wetland fringe on right bank, facing upstream (south)





**Photo 7.** Wetland WET278-05 – Sand Creek wetland fringe on right bank upstream (south) of pedestrian bridge.



**Photo 8.** Wetland WET278-06 – Sand Creek wetland fringe in side channel, facing downstream.



**Photo 9.** Wetland WET278-07 – Sand Creek wetland fringe on left bank, facing downstream (north).



**Photo 10.** Wetland WET278-08 – Sand Creek wetland fringe facing downstream.



**Photo 11.** Wetland WET278-09 – Sand Creek downstream of I-70, facing east.



**Photo 12.** Wetland WET278-10 (approx. center of photo in sunlight adjacent to creek). Sand Creek wetland fringe on right bank, facing downstream.





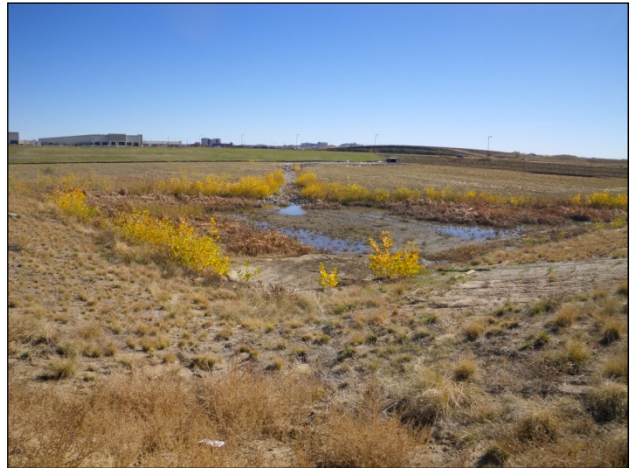
**Photo 13.** Wetland WET278-11. Sand Creek wetland fringe on left bank south of I-70. Facing upstream from pedestrian bridge.



**Photo 14.** Wetland WET278-12. Sand Creek wetland fringe



**Photo 15.** Wetland WET279-01 - Stormwater basin



**Photo 16.** Wetland WET279-02 – Stormwater basin



**Photo 17.** Wetland WET280-01 – Stormwater basin



**Photo 18.** Wetland WET280-02 – Stormwater basin





**Photo 19.** Wetland WET280-03 – Stormwater basin



**Photo 20.** Wetland WET280-04 – Stormwater basin



**Photo 21.** Wetland WET280-05 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 22.** Wetland WET280-06 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 23.** Wetland WET280-07 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 24.** Wetland WET280-08 – Roadside ditch





**Photo 25.** Wetland WET281-01 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 26.** Wetland WET281-02 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 27.** Wetland WET281-03 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 28.** Wetland WET281-04 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 27.** Wetland WET281-05 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 30.** Wetland WET281-06 – Roadside ditch





**Photo 31.** Wetland WET281-07 – Stormwater basin



**Photo 32.** Wetland WET282-01 - Stormwater basin. Sample point.



**Photo 33.** Wetland WET282-01. Stormwater basin. Near the east end facing west.



**Photo 34.** Wetland WET284-01 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 35.** Wetland WET285-01 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 36.** Wetland WET285-02 - Roadside ditch





**Photo 37.** Wetland WET285-03 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 38.** Wetland WET285-04 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 39.** Wetland WET285-05 – Roadside ditch



**Photo 40.** Wetland WET285-06 – Roadside ditch



# **Attachment N – Appendix C**

## **Wetland Data Forms**



# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 East DEIS/ South outfall City/County: Denver Sampling Date: 11/18/2013  
 Applicant/Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ State: CO Sampling Point: SP5  
 Investigator(s): Joe Allison, Karin McShea Section, Township, Range: Sec22 ,T3S, R68W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): terrace Local relief (concave, convex, none): none Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): G-Western Great Plains and Irrigated Region Lat: 39.776372 Long: 104.976960 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Soils have not been mapped in this area NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No x (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes x No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>x</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	
Remarks: Severe flooding in previous month.	

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 Ft radius</u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
<u>0</u> = Total Cover <b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>15 Ft radius</u> )				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____ OBL species _____ x 1 = <u>0</u> FACW species <u>100</u> x 2 = <u>200</u> FAC species _____ x 3 = <u>0</u> FACU species _____ x 4 = <u>0</u> UPL species _____ x 5 = <u>0</u> Column Totals: <u>100</u> (A) <u>200</u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>2</u>
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
<u>0</u> = Total Cover <b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>5 Ft radius</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>x</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <small>All dominants are FACW and/or OBL.</small> <u>x</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>x</u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> ___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) ___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
1. <u>Typha latifolia</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	
9. _____	_____	_____	_____	
<u>100</u> = Total Cover <b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>15 Ft radius</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>x</u> No _____
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>0</u> _____ = Total Cover <u>100</u> = Total Veg Cover				

Remarks:

D5 - FAC Neutral Test for hydrology. Drop all FAC, cross examine all other dominants. If > 50% remaining are FACW to OBL, then YES to D5.



# SOIL

Sampling Point: SP5

**Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)**

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type <sup>1</sup>	Loc <sup>2</sup>		
0-12	10 YR 3/2						Sand	
12-18	10 YR 2/1						Sandy clay loam	Extremely Dark in color

<sup>1</sup>Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains.

<sup>2</sup>Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

**Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1)                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6)          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Layers (A5) (LRR F)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR F, G, H)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S2) (LRR G, H) | <input type="checkbox"/> High Plains Depressions (F16) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (LRR F)      | <b>(MLRA 72 &amp; 73 of LRR H)</b>                     |

**Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:**

- ☐ 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR I, J)
- ☐ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (LRR F, G, H)
- ☐ Dark Surface (S7) (LRR G)
- ☐ High Plains Depressions (F16)
- (LRR H outside of MLRA 72 & 73)**
- ☐ Reduced Vertic (F18)
- ☐ Red Parent Material (TF2)
- ☐ Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- ☐ Other (Explain in Remarks)

<sup>3</sup>Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Restrictive Layer (if present):**

Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_

**Hydric Soil Present?** Yes ☒ No ☐

Remarks:

# HYDROLOGY

**Wetland Hydrology Indicators:**

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)                           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)                       | <b>(where not tilled)</b>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)                 |   |

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ☐ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ☐ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ☐ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ☐ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- (where tilled)**
- ☐ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ☐ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ☐ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ☐ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- ☐ Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)

**Field Observations:**

- |  |  |                           |
|--|--|---------------------------|
| Surface Water Present?                             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>            | Depth (inches): _____     |
| Water Table Present?                               | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Depth (inches): <u>11</u> |
| Saturation Present?<br>(includes capillary fringe) | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>            | Depth (inches): <u>6</u>  |

**Wetland Hydrology Present?** Yes ☒ No ☐

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

## WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/2/2012  
Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 274-01  
Investigator(s): ATKINS (MC ELDONNEY) Section, Township, Range: S23, T35, R68W  
Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): BENCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): NONE Slope (%): <1  
Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.78020127 Long: -104.97758721 Datum: WGS 84  
Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Remarks: S. PLATTE RIVER, N. OF I-70, WEST BANK, 4 FT. WIDE FRINGE ADJ. TO CHANNEL. PEM/PSS, RIVERLINE					

**VEGETATION** – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>          </u> )		Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
		_____ = Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>          </u> )				
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
		_____ = Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3 ft. DIA.</u> )				
1.	<u>CAREX LASIOCARPA</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>
2.	<u>PHALARIS ARUNDINACEA</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACW</u>
3.	<u>CIRSIIUM ARVENSE</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACU</u>
4.	<u>PERSICARIA SP.</u>	<u>&lt;1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____	_____
		<u>100</u> = Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>          </u> )				
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
		_____ = Total Cover		
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>          </u>				

**Dominance Test worksheet:**

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): 1 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 1 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

**Prevalence Index worksheet:**

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species _____	x 1 = _____
FACW species _____	x 2 = _____
FAC species _____	x 3 = _____
FACU species _____	x 4 = _____
UPL species _____	x 5 = _____
Column Totals: _____	(A) _____ (B) _____

Prevalence Index = B/A = \_\_\_\_\_

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:**

☒ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

☒ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

     3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup>

     4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

     Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain)

<sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?** Yes ☒ No

Remarks: PEM/PSS FRINGE ADJACENT TO SOUTH PLATTE RIVER. SALIX EXIGUA OCCURS NORTH OF SAMPLE PT.

Sampling Point: 274-01

[illegible]

### Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:

- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)
- High Plains Depressions (F16)

(MLRA 72 & 73 of LRR H)

<sup>3</sup>Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ~~X~~ No \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: HYDRIC SOILS ASSUMED - SLOPES ARE RIP-RAPPED.

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ☐ Salt Crust (B11)
- ☐ Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- ☐ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ☐ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ☐ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ☐ (where not tilled)
- ☐ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ☐ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ☐ Other (Explain in Remarks)

- \_\_\_ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- \_\_\_ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- \_\_\_ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- \_\_\_ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)  
(where tilled)
- \_\_\_ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- \_\_\_ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- \_\_\_ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- \_\_\_ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- \_\_\_ Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)

Surface Water Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches):           

Water Table Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches):           

Saturation Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches):           

(includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No       

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks: WETLAND FLOODS DURING SPRING/EARLY SUMMER. BANKFALL BENCH.



**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/2/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 274-02  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MISSEDOWNKEY) Section, Township, Range: S 23, T 35, R 68W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): BENCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): NONE Slope (%): 41%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77924555 Long: -104.97777705 Datum: NAD 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Remarks: <u>SOUTH PLATTE RIVER, SOUTH OF I-70 ON EAST BANK. PEM/PSS, RIVERLINE, FRINGE ADJACENT TO RIVER CHANNEL.</u>	

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>3</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>3</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A) <u>    </u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>10' DIA.</u>)</b> 1. <u>SALIX FYIFLUA</u> <u>3</u> <u>YES</u> <u>FACW</u>				
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>3</u> = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>    </u> X 2 - Dominance Test is >50% 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain) <u>    </u>  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u>)</b> 1. <u>PHALARIS ALUNDINACEA</u> <u>80</u> <u>YES</u> <u>FACW</u>				
2. <u>ECHINOCHLOA CRUS-GALLI</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
3. <u>XANTHUM STRUMARIUM</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>N/O</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
10. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>95</u> = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u>)</b> 1. <u>VITIS RIPARIA</u> <u>&lt;1</u> <u>YES</u> <u>FAC</u>				
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>&lt;1</u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>5</u>				
Remarks: <u>FRINGE ADJ. TO SOUTH PLATTE.</u>				

Sampling Point: 274-02

HYDROLOGYUS Army Corps of Engineers

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: T-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 11/8/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 278-01  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNNEY) Section, Township, Range: S21, T35, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): STORMWATER POND Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.78199615 Long: -104.90314476 Datum: WGS 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Remarks: <u>STORMWATER POND NEAR SAND CREEK. PEM, DEPRESSIONAL</u>	

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

<p><u>Tree Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Absolute % Cover</th> <th>Dominant Species?</th> <th>Indicator Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>2. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>3. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>4. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>    </u> = Total Cover</p> <p><u>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>10' DIA.</u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u></td> <td><u>10</u></td> <td><u>YES</u></td> <td><u>FACW</u></td> </tr> <tr><td>2. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>3. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>4. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>5. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>10</u> = Total Cover</p> <p><u>Herb Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. <u>TYPHA ANGSTIFOLIA</u></td> <td><u>80</u></td> <td><u>YES</u></td> <td><u>OBL</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. <u>ELEOCHARIS PALUSTRIS</u></td> <td><u>10</u></td> <td><u>NO</u></td> <td><u>OBL</u></td> </tr> <tr><td>3. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>4. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>5. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>6. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>7. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>8. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>9. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>10. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>90</u> = Total Cover</p> <p><u>Woody Vine Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr><td>1. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>2. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>    </u> = Total Cover</p> <p>% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>10</u></p>		Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	1. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	1. <u>TYPHA ANGSTIFOLIA</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	2. <u>ELEOCHARIS PALUSTRIS</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	10. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<p><b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b></p> <p>Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A)</p> <p>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)</p> <p>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)</p> <p><b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Total % Cover of:</th> <th>Multiply by:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>OBL species</td><td>x 1 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>FACW species</td><td>x 2 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>FAC species</td><td>x 3 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>FACU species</td><td>x 4 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>UPL species</td><td>x 5 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr> <td>Column Totals:</td> <td>(A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u></p> <p><b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b></p> <p>1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u></p> <p>2 - Dominance Test is &gt;50% <u>    </u></p> <p>3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup> <u>    </u></p> <p>4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u></p> <p>Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain) <u>    </u></p> <p><sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.</p> <p><b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u></p>	Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	OBL species	x 1 = <u>    </u>	FACW species	x 2 = <u>    </u>	FAC species	x 3 = <u>    </u>	FACU species	x 4 = <u>    </u>	UPL species	x 5 = <u>    </u>	Column Totals:	(A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u>
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Sampling Point: 278-01

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 11/8/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 278-02  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCELDOWNIE) Section, Township, Range: S22, T35, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): STREAMBANK Local relief (concave, convex, none): NONE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.7815 Long: -104.9027 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: PSS

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Remarks: <u>WETLAND FRINGE ADJACENT TO SAND CREEK. PSS, RIVERINE</u>	

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

<p><b>Tree Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Absolute % Cover</th> <th>Dominant Species?</th> <th>Indicator Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>2. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>3. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>4. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>    </u> = Total Cover</p> <p><b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>10' DIA.</u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr><td>1. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u></td><td><u>70</u></td><td><u>YES</u></td><td><u>FACW</u></td></tr> <tr><td>2. <u>POPULUS DELTOIDES</u></td><td><u>5</u></td><td><u>N</u></td><td><u>FAC</u></td></tr> <tr><td>3. <u>SALIX LUTEA</u></td><td><u>2</u></td><td><u>N</u></td><td><u>FACW</u></td></tr> <tr><td>4. <u>SYMPHORICARPOS OCCIDENTALIS</u></td><td><u>5</u></td><td><u>N</u></td><td><u>UPL</u></td></tr> <tr><td>5. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>82</u> = Total Cover</p> <p><b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr><td>1. <u>CAREX LASIOCARPA</u></td><td><u>45</u></td><td><u>YES</u></td><td><u>OBL</u></td></tr> <tr><td>2. <u>PHALARIS ARUNDINACEA</u></td><td><u>5</u></td><td><u>NO</u></td><td><u>FACW</u></td></tr> <tr><td>3. <u>SOLIDAGO CANADENSIS (?)</u></td><td><u>15</u></td><td><u>YES</u></td><td><u>FACU</u></td></tr> <tr><td>4. <u>JUNICUS EFFUSUS</u></td><td><u>1</u></td><td><u>NO</u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>5. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>6. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>7. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>8. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>9. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>10. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>66</u> = Total Cover</p> <p><b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr><td>1. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>2. <u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td><td><u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p align="right"><u>    </u> = Total Cover</p> <p>% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>34</u></p>		Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	1. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	2. <u>POPULUS DELTOIDES</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>FAC</u>	3. <u>SALIX LUTEA</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>FACW</u>	4. <u>SYMPHORICARPOS OCCIDENTALIS</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>UPL</u>	5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	1. <u>CAREX LASIOCARPA</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	2. <u>PHALARIS ARUNDINACEA</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACW</u>	3. <u>SOLIDAGO CANADENSIS (?)</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACU</u>	4. <u>JUNICUS EFFUSUS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>    </u>	5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	10. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<p><b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b></p> <p>Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A)</p> <p>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>3</u> (B)</p> <p>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>67</u> (A/B)</p> <p><b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Total % Cover of:</th> <th>Multiply by:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>OBL species</td><td>x 1 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>FACW species</td><td>x 2 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>FAC species</td><td>x 3 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>FACU species</td><td>x 4 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>UPL species</td><td>x 5 = <u>    </u></td></tr> <tr><td>Column Totals:</td><td>(A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u></p> <p><b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b></p> <p><u>    </u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation</p> <p><u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is &gt;50%</p> <p><u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup></p> <p><u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)</p> <p><u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain)</p> <p><sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.</p> <p><b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u></p>	Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	OBL species	x 1 = <u>    </u>	FACW species	x 2 = <u>    </u>	FAC species	x 3 = <u>    </u>	FACU species	x 4 = <u>    </u>	UPL species	x 5 = <u>    </u>	Column Totals:	(A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u>
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Remarks: <u>PSS ADJACENT TO SAND CREEK.</u>																																																																																																							

Sampling Point: 278-02

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers



**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 11/8/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 278-08  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S22, T3S, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): BANKFALL BEACH Local relief (concave, convex, none): NONE Slope (%): 21%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77931463 Long: -104.90056178 Datum: NAD 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: PSS

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ☒ No ☐ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation ☒ Soil ☒ or Hydrology ☒ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes ☒ No ☐  
 Are Vegetation ☒ Soil ☒ or Hydrology ☒ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Remarks: <u>WETLAND FRINGE ADJACENT TO SAND CRK.</u>
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**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>10' DIA.</u>)</b> 1. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u> <u>10</u> <u>YES</u> <u>FACW</u>				
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3 FT. DIA.</u>)</b> 1. <u>PHALARIS ARUNDINACEA</u> <u>100</u> <u>YES</u> <u>FACU</u>				
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	
9. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)</b> 1. _____ 2. _____				
_____ = Total Cover				
<b>% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum</b> _____				
Remarks: <u>PEM,</u>				

Sampling Point: 278-08

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 11/6/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 279-01  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCELLOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S21, T35, R  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): TERRACE Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): <1%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77721618 Long: -104.89448206 Datum: WGS 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation Y, Soil Y, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Remarks: <u>STORMWATER DETENTION POND SOUTH OF I-70, WEST OF CENTRAL PARK BOULEVARD. PEM, DEPRESSIONAL.</u>	

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet: Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>3</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>3</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
= Total Cover				Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators: 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
= Total Cover				Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u> )				
1. <u>ECHINOCHLOA CRUS-GALLI</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
2. <u>CYPERUS Sp.</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
3. <u>BECKMANNIA SYZIGACHNE</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
4. <u>AGROSTIS STOLONIFERA</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
= Total Cover				Remarks: <u>SITE WAS DRILL SEEDED WITH UPLAND SPECIES, WHICH OCCUR IN THE CENTRAL PORTION OF THE SITE. THE SAMPLE PT. WAS POSITIONED ON THE EDGE WHERE THE NATIVE SPECIES AND PIONEER SP. HAVE COLONIZED. OTHER SP. = RUMEX AND PANICUM</u>
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	US Army Corps of Engineers
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
= Total Cover				Great Plains – Version 2.0
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>25</u>				



Sampling Point: 279-01

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM - Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 11/6/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 279-02  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCELDAWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S 22, T 35, R 67 W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): STORMWATER POND Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G1 Lat: 39.77573991 Long: -104.88041409 Datum: NAD 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS - Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Remarks: <u>STORMWATER DETENTION POND ON SOUTH SIDE OF I-70 BETWEEN CENTRAL PARK AVE AND HAVANA ST. PEM/PSS, DEPRESSIONAL.</u>		

## VEGETATION - Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet: Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>3</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>3</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
= Total Cover				
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>10' DIA.</u> )				Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
2. <u>POPULUS DELTOIDES (SAPLINGS)</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
= Total Cover				
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u> )				Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>ELEOCHARIS PAUSTRIS</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. <u>ECTHINOCHLOA CRUS-GALLI</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
= Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
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1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u></u>	

Sampling Point: 279-02

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers



**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 11/6/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 280-2  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S 22, T 35, R 67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): STORMWATER POND Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77726905 Long: -104.87534084 Datum: WGS 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Remarks: <u>3 STORMWATER PONDS N. OF I-70 BETWEEN CENTRAL PARK AVE AND HAWANA ST.; PEM, DEPRESSIONAL</u>	

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. <u>    </u>				Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>4</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>4</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
2. <u>    </u>				
3. <u>    </u>				
4. <u>    </u>				
= Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>20</u> Multiply by: OBL species <u>20</u> x 1 = <u>20</u> FACW species <u>0</u> x 2 = <u>0</u> FAC species <u>0</u> x 3 = <u>0</u> FACU species <u>0</u> x 4 = <u>0</u> UPL species <u>0</u> x 5 = <u>0</u> Column Totals: <u>20</u> (A) <u>0</u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>0.0</u>
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>10' DIA.</u>)</b>				
1. <u>SALIX AMYGDALOIDES</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
2. <u>    </u>				
3. <u>    </u>				
= Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u>)</b>				
1. <u>TYPHA ANGUSTIFOLIA</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. <u>SCHEUCHZERIA PALUSTRIS</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
3. <u>ELAEOCHARIS PALUSTRIS</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
4. <u>    </u>				
5. <u>    </u>				
6. <u>    </u>				
7. <u>    </u>				
8. <u>    </u>				
9. <u>    </u>				
= Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</b>				
1. <u>    </u>				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>    </u> No <u>    </u>
2. <u>    </u>				
<b>% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>    </u></b>				
Remarks: <u>OTHER SPECIES OBS. = POPULUS DELTOIDES, POTENTILLA ANISELINA, RORIPPA SP., HORDEUM jubatum, RUMEX CRISPUS, SALIX EXIGUA, DUCKWEED.</u>				

Sampling Point: 290-2

[illegible]

## HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:			Wetland Hydrology Indicators:	
<u>Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)</u>			<u>Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)	<b>(where tilled)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)	<b>(where not tilled)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)	<input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)		<input type="checkbox"/> Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)		
<b>Field Observations:</b>				
Surface Water Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches):	<u>12"</u>	
Water Table Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches):	<u>8"</u>	
Saturation Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches):	<u>0"</u>	
(includes capillary fringe)			Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:				
<u>INUNDATION OBSERVED IN AERIAL PHOTOS.</u>				
Remarks: <u>STORMWATER DETENTION BASIN.</u>				

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 280-049  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNNEY) Section, Township, Range: S22, T3S, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): STORMWATER AREA Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.7764668741 Long: -104.867149397 Datum: WGS 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NO SOIL DATA AVAILABLE NVI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>    </u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>    </u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Remarks: <u>AREA COLLECTS STORMWATER RUNOFF. NW QUADRANT OF HAVANA INTERCHANGE.</u>
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**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: <u>    </u> OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A) <u>    </u> (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>1 m</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>    </u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain) <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
1. <u>RUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
2. <u>POLYGONUM AVICULARE</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>16</u> = Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>84</u>				
Remarks: <u>PEM, DEPRESSIONAL</u>				



Sampling Point: 280-04a

[illegible]

## HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:		
<u>Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)</u>		<u>Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
<input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)	<b>(where tilled)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)	<b>(where not tilled)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
<input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)	<input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)		<input type="checkbox"/> Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)

<b>Field Observations:</b>		
Surface Water Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches): _____
Water Table Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches): _____
Saturation Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches): _____
(includes capillary fringe)		<b>Wetland Hydrology Present?</b> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: LAND USE CHANGES HAVE RESULTED IN MORE WATER BEING ROUTED TO THIS SITE THAN IN THE PAST. THIS SITE WILL BE INUNDATED FOLLOWING PRECIPITATION EVENTS.

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 280-046  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDMNEY) Section, Township, Range: S22, T3S, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): SLOPE Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONVEX Slope (%): 1  
 Subregion (LRR): LRG Lat: 39.7766355428 Long: -104.867241505 Datum: WGS 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u>	
Remarks:		

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>50%</u> (A/B)
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A) <u>    </u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>1m</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>    </u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>    </u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
1. <u>Rumex crispus</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
2. <u>Polygonum aviculare</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
3. <u>Verbena bracteata</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>50</u> = Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>50</u> <u>    </u> = Total Cover				
Remarks: <u>DISTURBED AREA.</u>				

Sampling Point: 280-046

HYDROLOGYUS Army Corps of Engineers



# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 280-05  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCELDOWNNEY) Section, Township, Range: S23, T3S, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR6 Lat: 39.7771870221 Long: -104.865369218 Datum: WGS84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation     , Soil     , or Hydrology      significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes      No       
 Are Vegetation     , Soil     , or Hydrology      naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Remarks: <u>NE QUADRANT OF HAVANA INTERCHANGE.</u>		

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
1. <u>    </u>				
2. <u>    </u>				
3. <u>    </u>				
4. <u>    </u>				
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A) <u>    </u> (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
1. <u>    </u>				
2. <u>    </u>				
3. <u>    </u>				
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
1. <u>    </u>				
2. <u>    </u>				
3. <u>    </u>				
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.  <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
1. <u>    </u>				
2. <u>    </u>				
3. <u>    </u>				
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>75</u> <u>    </u> = Total Cover Remarks: <u>PLANT LITTER COMPRISES 75% OF THE SITE. OUTSIDE OF THE SAMPLE POINT THE WETLAND ALSO HAS SALTGRASS, RABBITSFOOT, SLENDER WHEATGRASS AND KOCHIA.</u>				

Sampling Point: 280-05

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 280+UPL  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCELDOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S 23, T 3S, R 67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): DRAINAGE Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0.5%  
 Subregion (LRR): 1 R R G Lat: 39.7750736226 Long: -104.865397915 Datum: WGS84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>    </u> No <u>X</u>	
Remarks: <u>SE QUADRANT OF HAVANA/I-70 INTERCHANGE. SITE WAS MAPPED AS A WETLAND IN PREVIOUS DRAFT OF THE EIS, SO WAS CHECKED.</u>		

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
<u>    </u> = Total Cover			
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</b>			
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
<u>    </u> = Total Cover			
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>1m</u>)</b>			
1. <u>RUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FAC</u>
2. <u>UNIDENTIFIED ASTER</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>    </u>
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
10. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
<u>35</u> = Total Cover			
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</b>			
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
<u>    </u> = Total Cover			
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>65%</u>			
Remarks: <u>DRY CHANNEL.</u>			

**Dominance Test worksheet:**  
 Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): 1 (A)  
 Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 1 (B)  
 Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100% (AB)

**Prevalence Index worksheet:**  

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species <u>    </u>	x 1 = <u>    </u>
FACW species <u>    </u>	x 2 = <u>    </u>
FAC species <u>    </u>	x 3 = <u>    </u>
FACU species <u>    </u>	x 4 = <u>    </u>
UPL species <u>    </u>	x 5 = <u>    </u>
Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A)	<u>    </u> (B)

 Prevalence Index = B/A =

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:**  
     1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation  
X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%  
     3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup>  
     4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)  
     Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain)  
<sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?** Yes X No



Sampling Point: 280-4PL

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 Bridge Over Havana Street City/County: Denver Sampling Date: 4-12-13  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: SP-10  
 Investigator(s): E. Weber, S. Fanello Section, Township, Range: Section 22, Township 3 South, Range 67 West  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Ditch Local relief (concave, convex, none): concave Slope (%): 1  
 Subregion (LRR): G- Western Great Plains Lat: \_\_\_\_\_ Long: \_\_\_\_\_ Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Unmapped NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No x (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes x No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>x</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	
Remarks: *Severe drought ( <a href="http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu">http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu</a> ) Ditch along Havana, south of concrete-lined ditch.	

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 Ft radius</u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): _____ (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: _____ (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: _____ (A/B)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____ OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: <u>0</u> (A) <u>0</u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>15 Ft radius</u>)</b> 1. <u>Salix exigua</u> 10 Y FACW				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>x</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <small>All dominants are FACW and/or OBL.</small> _____ 2 - Dominance Test is >50% _____ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> _____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) _____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>5 Ft radius</u>)</b> 1. <u>Typha angustifolia</u> 100 Y OBL				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
6. _____				
7. _____				
8. _____				
_____ = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)</b> 1. _____ 2. _____ _____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>x</u> No _____
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>0</u>				
Remarks:				

D5 - FAC Neutral Test for hydrology. Drop all FAC, cross examine all other dominants. If > 50% remaining are FACW to OBL, then YES to D5.

# SOIL

Sampling Point: SP-10

## Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type <sup>1</sup>	Loc <sup>2</sup>		
0-10	10 YR 2/1	100					loam	organic matter muck (lots)
10-18	10 YR 3/3	95	10 YR 4/6	5	C	M	sandy clay loam	redox

<sup>1</sup>Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. <sup>2</sup>Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

### Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1)                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Layers (A5) (LRR F)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR F, G, H)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S2) (LRR G, H) | <input type="checkbox"/> High Plains Depressions (F16) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (LRR F)      | <b>(MLRA 72 &amp; 73 of LRR H)</b>                     |

### Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:

- ☐ 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR I, J)
- ☐ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (LRR F, G, H)
- ☐ Dark Surface (S7) (LRR G)
- ☐ High Plains Depressions (F16)
- (LRR H outside of MLRA 72 & 73)**
- ☐ Reduced Vertic (F18)
- ☐ Red Parent Material (TF2)
- ☐ Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- ☐ Other (Explain in Remarks)

<sup>3</sup>Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

### Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ☒ No ☐

### Remarks:

Surface slippery/oily between fingers = muck  
One centimeter of muck is the evidence of hydric soil present.

# HYDROLOGY

## Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

### Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)                       | <b>(where not tilled)</b>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)                 |   |

### Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ☐ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ☐ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ☐ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ☐ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- (where tilled)**
- ☐ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ☐ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ☒ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ☐ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- ☐ Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)

### Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_  
Water Table Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturation Present? Yes ☒ No ☐ Depth (inches): at surface  
(includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ☒ No ☐

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

### Remarks:

Evidence of wetland hydrology is saturation at the surface.



# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 Bridge Over Havana Street City/County: Denver Sampling Date: 4-12-13  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: SP-3  
 Investigator(s): E. Weber, S. Fanello Section, Township, Range: Section 23, Township 3 South, Range 67 West  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Swale Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): G- Western Great Plains Lat: \_\_\_\_\_ Long: \_\_\_\_\_ Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Unmapped NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Remarks: *Severe drought ( <a href="http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu">http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu</a> ) Sampling point completed in ditch/swale along Interstate 70 on-ramp, in the southeast quadrant of the interchange.	

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 Ft radius</u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): _____ (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: _____ (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: _____ (A/B)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____ OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: <u>0</u> (A) <u>0</u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>15 Ft radius</u>)</b>				
1. <u>Salix exigua</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <small>All dominants are FACW and/or OBL.</small> _____ 2 - Dominance Test is >50% _____ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> _____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) _____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>5 Ft radius</u>)</b>				
1. <u>Phalaris arundinacea</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)</b>				
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>0</u>				
Remarks: Scrub/shrub wetland				

D5 - FAC Neutral Test for hydrology. Drop all FAC, cross examine all other dominants. If > 50% remaining are FACW to OBL, then YES to D5.

# SOIL

Sampling Point: SP-3

## Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type <sup>1</sup>	Loc <sup>2</sup>		
0-6	10 YR 2/1	100					sandy clay loam	mucky at surface, no redox
6-10	10 YR 3/2	100					sand	no redox
10-18	10 YR 3/2	98	7.5 YR 4/6	2	C	PL	sandy loam	redox features present

<sup>1</sup>Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. <sup>2</sup>Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

## Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1)                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Layers (A5) (LRR F)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR F, G, H)              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S2) (LRR G, H) | <input type="checkbox"/> High Plains Depressions (F16)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (LRR F)      | (MLRA 72 & 73 of LRR H)                                  |

## Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:

- ☐ 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR I, J)
  - ☐ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (LRR F, G, H)
  - ☐ Dark Surface (S7) (LRR G)
  - ☐ High Plains Depressions (F16)
  - ☐ (LRR H outside of MLRA 72 & 73)
  - ☐ Reduced Vertic (F18)
  - ☐ Red Parent Material (TF2)
  - ☐ Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
  - ☐ Other (Explain in Remarks)
- <sup>3</sup>Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

## Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ☒ No ☐

## Remarks:

Same hydric indicators as SP-1

# HYDROLOGY

## Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

### Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)                       | (where not tilled)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)                 |   |

### Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ☐ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ☐ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ☐ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ☐ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ☐ (where tilled)
- ☐ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ☐ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ☒ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ☒ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- ☐ Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)

## Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_  
Water Table Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturation Present? Yes ☒ No ☐ Depth (inches): 2  
(includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ☒ No ☐

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

## Remarks:

Top of profile wet due to recent snowmelt.

# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 Bridge Over Havana Street City/County: Denver Sampling Date: 4-12-13  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: SP-1  
 Investigator(s): E. Weber, S. Fanello Section, Township, Range: Section 23, Township 3 South, Range 67 West  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): N/A Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): G- Western Great Plains Lat: \_\_\_\_\_ Long: \_\_\_\_\_ Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Unmapped NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No x (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes x No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>x</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>x</u> No _____	
Remarks: *Severe drought ( <a href="http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu">http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu</a> ) Pit completed in low area in grassy area adjacent to eastbound on-ramp to I-70 from Havana.	

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 Ft radius</u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): _____ (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: _____ (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: _____ (A/B)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____ OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: <u>0</u> (A) <u>0</u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
0 = Total Cover				
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>15 Ft radius</u>)</b>				
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>x</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <small>All dominants are FACW and/or OBL.</small> _____ 2 - Dominance Test is >50% _____ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> _____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) _____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>5 Ft radius</u>)</b>				
1. <u>Typha angustifolia</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	
9. _____	_____	_____	_____	
10. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>x</u> No _____
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)</b>				
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>0</u>				
Remarks: Wetland vegetation has been mowed.				

D5 - FAC Neutral Test for hydrology. Drop all FAC, cross examine all other dominants. If > 50% remaining are FACW to OBL, then YES to D5.



# SOIL

Sampling Point: SP-1

## Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type <sup>1</sup>	Loc <sup>2</sup>		
0-4	10YR 3/2	100					sandy clay loam	No redox
4-10	10YR 3/2	97	7.5YR 4/6	3	C	PL/M	sandy loam	Redox features observed
10-18	10YR 3/4	100					loamy sand	No redox

<sup>1</sup>Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. <sup>2</sup>Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

### Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1)                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Layers (A5) (LRR F)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR F, G, H)              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S2) (LRR G, H) | <input type="checkbox"/> High Plains Depressions (F16)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (LRR F)      | (MLRA 72 & 73 of LRR H)                                  |

### Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:

- ☐ 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR I, J)
  - ☐ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (LRR F, G, H)
  - ☐ Dark Surface (S7) (LRR G)
  - ☐ High Plains Depressions (F16)
  - ☐ (LRR H outside of MLRA 72 & 73)
  - ☐ Reduced Vertic (F18)
  - ☐ Red Parent Material (TF2)
  - ☐ Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
  - ☐ Other (Explain in Remarks)
- <sup>3</sup>Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

### Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ☒ No ☐

### Remarks:

Profile moist near surface due to recent snowmelt. Layer 4 inches below ground surface, 6 inches in depth, redox observed 3% in pore linings/root channels, redox concentrations prominent.

# HYDROLOGY

## Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

### Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)                       | (where not tilled)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)                 |  |

### Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ☐ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ☐ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ☐ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ☐ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ☐ (where tilled)
- ☐ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ☐ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ☒ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ☒ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- ☐ Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)

### Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_  
Water Table Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturation Present? Yes ☐ No ☒ Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_  
(includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ☒ No ☐

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

### Remarks:

Surface soil is moist due to recent snowmelt.

# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/11/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 281-01  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELMURRAY) Section, Township, Range: S23, T3S, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): <1%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77515166 Long: -104.85566707 Datum: NAD 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Remarks: <u>ROADSIDE DITCH ON N. SIDE OF I-70 BETWEEN HAWANA ST. AND PEORIA ST., PEM, DEPRESSIONAL</u>		

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (AB)
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A) <u>    </u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
<b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
1. <u>CAREX NEBRASCENSIS</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. <u>JUNCUS ARCTICUS</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
3. <u>RUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
4. <u>ECHINOCHLOA CRUS-GALLI</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
5. <u>HORDEUM JUBATUM</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
10. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>66</u> = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>34</u>				
Remarks: <u>PEM IN ROADSIDE DITCH. OTHER SPECIES AWAY FROM SAMPLE PT INCLUDE A CAREX SP. (NO SPIKES), FESTUCA PRATENSE, SCHOENOPLECTUS PUNIFOLIUS, ANNUAL SUNFLOWER AND MAHONIA.</u>				

Sampling Point: 281-01

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers



**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: T-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 281-04  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MELDOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S 23, T 35, R 67 W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 41%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77487076 Long: -104.84967106 Datum: NAD 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes ✓ No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u>    </u>	<b>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u>    </u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>✓</u>	No <u>    </u>	
Remarks: <u>ROADSIDE DITCH NORTH OF WB ONRAMP FROM PECOIA ONTO I-70.</u>			

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:														
1. <u>    </u>				Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>50%</u> (A/B)														
2. <u>    </u>																		
3. <u>    </u>																		
4. <u>    </u>																		
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> <table style="width:100%;"> <tr> <th>Total % Cover of:</th> <th>Multiply by:</th> </tr> <tr> <td>OBL species <u>40</u></td> <td>x 1 = <u>40</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACW species <u>    </u></td> <td>x 2 = <u>    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FAC species <u>10</u></td> <td>x 3 = <u>30</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACU species <u>15</u></td> <td>x 4 = <u>60</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPL species <u>    </u></td> <td>x 5 = <u>    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Column Totals: <u>65</u> (A)</td> <td><u>130</u> (B)</td> </tr> </table> Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>2.0</u>	Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	OBL species <u>40</u>	x 1 = <u>40</u>	FACW species <u>    </u>	x 2 = <u>    </u>	FAC species <u>10</u>	x 3 = <u>30</u>	FACU species <u>15</u>	x 4 = <u>60</u>	UPL species <u>    </u>	x 5 = <u>    </u>	Column Totals: <u>65</u> (A)	<u>130</u> (B)
Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:																	
OBL species <u>40</u>	x 1 = <u>40</u>																	
FACW species <u>    </u>	x 2 = <u>    </u>																	
FAC species <u>10</u>	x 3 = <u>30</u>																	
FACU species <u>15</u>	x 4 = <u>60</u>																	
UPL species <u>    </u>	x 5 = <u>    </u>																	
Column Totals: <u>65</u> (A)	<u>130</u> (B)																	
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</b> 1. <u>    </u> 2. <u>    </u> 3. <u>    </u> 4. <u>    </u> 5. <u>    </u> <u>    </u> = Total Cover																		
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3 Ft. Dia</u>)</b> 1. <u>TYPHIA ANGUSTIFOLIA</u> 40% YES OBL 2. <u>AMBROSIA GRAYI (?)</u> 10% NO FAC 3. <u>PASCOPYRUM SMITHII</u> 15% YES FACU 4. <u>    </u> 5. <u>    </u> 6. <u>    </u> 7. <u>    </u> 8. <u>    </u> 9. <u>    </u> 10. <u>    </u> <u>65</u> = Total Cover																		
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</b> 1. <u>    </u> 2. <u>    </u> <u>    </u> = Total Cover																		
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>35</u> Remarks: <u>PEM, DEPRESSIONAL</u>																		

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:**  
     1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation  
     2 - Dominance Test is >50%  
X 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup>  
     4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)  
     Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain)  
<sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?**  
 Yes X No

Sampling Point: 281-04

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/11/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: \_\_\_\_\_ Sampling Point: 281-07a  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELMURNEY) Section, Township, Range: S24, T35, R67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): DETENTION POND Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.7741 Long: -104.8407 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Remarks: <u>N. of I-70, EAST OF PEORIA ST. EXIT. STORMWATER DETENTION FACILITY. PEM, PSS, PFO.</u>		

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____ OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: _____)				
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3 Ft. Dia</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% _____ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> _____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) _____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain) <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____
1. <u>JUNCUS ARCTICUS</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
2. <u>ALOPECURUS ARUNDINACEUS</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	
9. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)				
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>0</u>				

Remarks: 10% PFO ON DIAGONAL BOUNDARY AT E. END. ALSO 10% PSS ON THE E. BOUNDARY. PEM IS MAINLY TYPHA LATIFOLIA AND SCHOENOPLECTUS ACUTUS. SPECIES LISTED WERE THOSE SPECIFICALLY AT THE SAMPLE POINT.



Sampling Point: 281-07a

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 281-076  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (M'ELDOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S 24, T 35, R 67W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): DETENTION POND Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77401731 Long: -104.83932201 Datum: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soil Map Unit Name: NOT AVAILABLE NWI classification: N/NF  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes _____ No <u>X</u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes _____ No <u>X</u>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes _____ No <u>X</u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes _____ No <u>X</u>	
Remarks: <u>RIPARIAN AREA IN EAST SIDE OF DETENTION FACILITY.</u>		

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>3</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>33%</u> (A/B)
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____ OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>20' DIA.</u>)</b>				
1. <u>POPULUS DELTOIDES (SAPLING)</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
2. _____				
3. _____				
<u>15</u> = Total Cover				
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3 FT. DIA.</u>)</b>				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> ___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation ___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50% ___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> ___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) ___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain) <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
1. <u>POA COMPRESSA</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
2. <u>CONVOLVULUS ARVENSE</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NL</u>	
3. <u>PASCOPYRUM SMITHII</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
4. <u>TARAXACUM OFFICINALE</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
<u>55</u> = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)</b>				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes _____ No <u>X</u>
1. _____				
2. _____				
<b>% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum</b> <u>45</u> _____ = Total Cover				
Remarks: <u>RIPARIAN AREA</u>				

Sampling Point: 281-076

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers



# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: ADAMS Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 282-01  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCELLOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S 19, T 35, R 66 W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_ Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): <1%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.77180918 Long: -104.82744069 Datum: NAD 83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: ASC - ASCALON SANDY LOAM, 3 to 5% SLOPES NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Remarks: <u>At intersection of I-70 and I-225. No outlet observed.</u>		

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100%</u> (A/B)
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
_____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)				
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
_____ = Total Cover				
<b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>WETLAND</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% _____ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> _____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) _____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain) <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
1. <u>TYPHA ANGUSTIFOLIA</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. <u>TYPHA LATIFOLIA</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
3. <u>SCHONOPLECTUS ACUTUS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
4. <u>ALOPECURUS ALUNDINACEUS</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
5. <u>ELEOCHARIS PALUSTRIS</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
6. <u>RUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
7. <u>SCIRPUS PUNGENS</u>	<u>&lt;1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
8. <u>ECHINOCHLOA CRUS-GALLI</u>	<u>&lt;1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
9. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
10. <u>PHALARIS AMUNDINACEA</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
_____ = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____
1. _____				
2. _____				
_____ = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum _____				
Remarks: <u>DEPRESSIONAL, PEM, 2 PATCHES OF PSS. *GROUND COVER VARIES IN WETLAND, AT SAMPLE PT. THE GROUND COVER WAS 50%.</u> <u>LEPTOCHLOA FUSCA ALSO OBS. (&lt;1%).</u>				

## SOIL

Sampling Point: 282-01

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)							
Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features			Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type <sup>1</sup>		
0-2	10YR 3/1	100					Silty Clay loam
2-6	10YR 4/2	95	10YR 5/8	5	C	M	Sandy loam
6-16	10YR 5/6	100			CS	M	Loamy sand

<sup>1</sup>Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. <sup>2</sup>Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)		Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils <sup>3</sup> :
<input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR I, J)
<input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (LRR F, G, H)
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dark Surface (S7) (LRR G)
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)	<input type="checkbox"/> High Plains Depressions (F16)
<input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Layers (A5) (LRR F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (LRR H outside of MLRA 72 & 73)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR F, G, H)	<input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduced Vertic (F18)
<input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6)	<input type="checkbox"/> Red Parent Material (TF2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12)	<input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S2) (LRR G, H)	<input type="checkbox"/> High Plains Depressions (F16)	<sup>3</sup> Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (LRR F)	<input type="checkbox"/> (MLRA 72 & 73 of LRR H)	

**Restrictive Layer (if present):**

Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Depth (inches): \_\_\_\_\_

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ☒ No ☐

Remarks: Soil was moist in 3<sup>rd</sup> layer. Sand grains stained in 3<sup>rd</sup> layer

## HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:	
<b>Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)</b>	<b>Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
<input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) (where tilled)
<input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
<input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)	<input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)
<b>Field Observations:</b>	
Surface Water Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____	
Water Table Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____	
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____	Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:	
Remarks: Site will be inundated during spring snowmelt and during decent sized rain events.	

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: ADAMS Sampling Date: 9/2/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: \_\_\_\_\_ Sampling Point: 284-01  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCELDINEY) Section, Township, Range: S 29, T 3S, R 66W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.766872619 Long: -104.795634455 Datum: WGS 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: ASB - ASCALON SANDY LOAM, 1-3% SLOPES NWI classification: PEM  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation Y, Soil Y, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Remarks: <u>OCCURS IN ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY WHICH IS ROUTINELY MOVED AND WAS DISTURBED DURING ROAD CONSTRUCTION, SOUTH SIDE OF I-70 BETWEEN PENIA AND AIRPORT BLNDS. DEPRESSIONAL, PEM. PSS OCCURS TO SOUTH BEYOND THE ROW FENCE.</u>		

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100%</u> (A/B)
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
<u>_____</u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)				
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
<u>_____</u> = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> ___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% ___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> ___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) ___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain) <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____
<b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>1 m</u> )				
1. <u>ELFOETALIS PALUSTRIS</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>OBL</u>		
2. <u>SCHONOPLECTUS ACUTUS</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>OBL</u>		
3. <u>TYPHA ANGUSTIFOLIA</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>OBL</u>		
4. _____				
5. _____				
6. _____				
7. _____				
8. _____				
9. _____				
10. _____				
<u>95</u> = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)				
1. _____				
2. _____				
<u>_____</u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>5</u>				
Remarks: <u>PEM. SITE WAS MOVED.</u>				



Sampling Point: 284-01

## HYDROLOGY

Great Plains – Version 2.0

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: ADAMS Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 285-01  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNY) Section, Township, Range: S28, T3S, R66W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 41%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.76323282 Long: -104.78460203 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: ASCALON-PLATNER ASSOCIATION NWI classification: NONE

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Remarks: <u>SOUTH OF I-70, WEST OF TOWER ROAD EXIT</u> <u>ROADSIDE DITCH, PEM, RIVERINE.</u>
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**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>1</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100%</u> (A/B)
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A) <u>    </u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3 FT</u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
1. <u>TYPHA LATIFOLIA</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. <u>SCHROENIOPLECTUS ACUTUS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
3. <u>RUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
4. <u>BROMUS INERMIS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>UPL</u>	
5. <u>SALIX sp.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
10. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>77</u> = Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>    </u> Remarks: <u>PEM IN ROADSIDE DITCH.</u>				

Sampling Point: 285-01

## HYDROLOGY

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)		Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6)	
<input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)	<input type="checkbox"/> (where tilled)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)	<input type="checkbox"/> (where not tilled)	<input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)	<input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)		<input type="checkbox"/> Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)	
<b>Field Observations:</b> Surface Water Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____ Water Table Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____ Saturation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____ (includes capillary fringe)		<b>Wetland Hydrology Present?</b> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available: _____			
Remarks: <i>Expect site to be inundated in spring/early summer.</i>			



**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: ADAMS Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 285-02  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNNEY) Section, Township, Range: S28, T35, R66W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): <1%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.76201436 Long: -104.78103526 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: ASCALON - PLATNER ASSOCIATION NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Remarks: <u>SOUTHSIDE OF I-70, WEST OF TOWER ROAD Exit.</u> <u>PSS, RIVERINE</u>
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**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:														
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>3</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>67%</u> (A/B)														
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> <table style="width:100%;"> <tr> <td>Total % Cover of:</td> <td>Multiply by:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OBL species <u>    </u></td> <td>x 1 = <u>    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACW species <u>    </u></td> <td>x 2 = <u>    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FAC species <u>    </u></td> <td>x 3 = <u>    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACU species <u>    </u></td> <td>x 4 = <u>    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPL species <u>    </u></td> <td>x 5 = <u>    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Column Totals:</td> <td>(A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u></td> </tr> </table> Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>	Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	OBL species <u>    </u>	x 1 = <u>    </u>	FACW species <u>    </u>	x 2 = <u>    </u>	FAC species <u>    </u>	x 3 = <u>    </u>	FACU species <u>    </u>	x 4 = <u>    </u>	UPL species <u>    </u>	x 5 = <u>    </u>	Column Totals:	(A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u>
Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:																	
OBL species <u>    </u>	x 1 = <u>    </u>																	
FACW species <u>    </u>	x 2 = <u>    </u>																	
FAC species <u>    </u>	x 3 = <u>    </u>																	
FACU species <u>    </u>	x 4 = <u>    </u>																	
UPL species <u>    </u>	x 5 = <u>    </u>																	
Column Totals:	(A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u>																	
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>30' DIA.</u>)</b>																		
1. <u>SALIX AMYGDALOIDES</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>															
2. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACW</u>															
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
<u>77</u> = Total Cover																		
<b>Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3' DIA.</u>)</b>																		
1. <u>TYPHA LATIFOLIA</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>															
2. <u>RUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>															
3. <u>SOLANUM SP.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>															
4. <u>BROMUS INERMIS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>UPL</u>															
5. <u>FESTUCA PRATENSIS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACU</u>															
6. <u>CIRSIMUM ARVENSE</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACU</u>															
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
9. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
10. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
<u>25</u> = Total Cover																		
<b>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u>)</b>																		
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>															
<u>    </u> = Total Cover																		
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>75</u>																		
Remarks: <u>PSS</u>																		

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?** Yes X No

Sampling Point: 285-02

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: ADAMS Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 285-03  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (M'ELDOWNNEY) Section, Township, Range: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 41%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.76049461 Long: -104.77665766 Datum: WGS 84  
 Soil Map Unit Name: PLAINEER LOAM, 0 to 3% Slopes NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No _____	
Remarks: <u>SOUTH OF EB OFFRAMP ENTRANCE TO TOWER ROAD;</u>		

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____) _____ = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
<b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>1m</u> ) _____ = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain) <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
1. <u>FECHINOCHLOA CANUS - GALLI</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
2. <u>SCHENODIETUS ACUTUS</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
3. <u>PERSICARIA Sp. (SMARTWEED)</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
4. <u>CIRSIIUM ARVENSE</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
5. <u>BROMUS INERMIS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>UPL</u>	
6. <u>RUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>41%</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
7. <u>CHENOPADIUM Sp.</u>	<u>&lt;1%</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>-</u>	
8. _____				
9. _____				
10. _____				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____) <u>102</u> = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____
1. _____				
2. _____				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum _____ = Total Cover				
Remarks: <u>PEM IN ROADSIDE DITCH.</u>				



Sampling Point: 285-03

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

## WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: DENVER Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 285-04  
Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNY) Section, Township, Range: S28, T35, R66W  
Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 41%  
Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: \_\_\_\_\_ Long: \_\_\_\_\_ Datum: WGS 84  
Soil Map Unit Name: PLATNER LOAM, 0 to 3% Slopes NWI classification: NONE  
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u>	No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?	Yes <u>X</u>	No _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u>	No _____			
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u>	No _____			
Remarks: SOUTH OF EB I-70 OFFRAMP AT TOWER ROAD, PEM. RIVERCREEK IN A ROADSIDE DITCH.					

**VEGETATION** – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)		Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:		
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>3</u> (A)		
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>4</u> (B)		
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>75%</u> (A/B)		
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____			
		_____ = Total Cover					
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: _____)					Prevalence Index worksheet:		
1. _____	_____						
2. _____	_____						
3. _____	_____						
4. _____	_____						
5. _____	_____				Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____		
		_____ = Total Cover				OBL species _____ x 1 = _____	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>1m</u> )					FACW species _____ x 2 = _____		
1. <u>TYPHALATIFOLIA</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>		FAC species _____ x 3 = _____		
2. <u>EUMEX CRISPUS</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FAC</u>		FACU species _____ x 4 = _____		
3. <u>SCHENOPLECTUS ACUTUS</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>		UPL species _____ x 5 = _____		
4. <u>FESTUCA PRATENSIS</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACU</u>		Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B)		
5. _____	_____				Prevalence Index = B/A = _____		
6. _____	_____				Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators: <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% ___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> ___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) ___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)		
7. _____	_____						
8. _____	_____						
9. _____	_____						
10. _____	_____						
		<u>55</u> = Total Cover				<sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)							
1. _____	_____				Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____		
2. _____	_____						
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>45</u>		_____ = Total Cover					
Remarks: <u>MOWED.</u>							

Sampling Point: 285-04

HYDROLOGYUS Army Corps of Engineers



# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: ADAMS Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 285-05  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (McELDOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S28, T35, R66W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): ~1%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRL G Lat: 39.75913436 Long: -104.77430936 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: PLB - PLATINUM LOAM, 0 to 3% Slopes NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Remarks: <u>EAST BOUND OFF RAMP TO TOWER ROAD.</u> <u>PSS, RIVERINE WETLAND IN ROADSIDE DITCH.</u>		

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	<b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b> Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>3</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>4</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>75%</u> (A/B)
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: <u>    </u> OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: (A) <u>    </u> (B) <u>    </u> Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>30' DIA</u> )				
1. <u>SALIX EXIGUA</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>94</u> = Total Cover				
<b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>1m</u> )				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)
1. <u>TYPHA LATIFOLIA</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
2. <u>SCHENOPLECTUS ACUTUS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
3. <u>SCHENOPLECTUS MARITIMUS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>OBL</u>	
4. <u>CIRSIMUM ARVENSE</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACU</u>	
<u>10</u> = Total Cover				
<b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				<sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>0</u>				
Remarks: <u>PSS, RIVERINE WETLAND</u>				

Sampling Point: 285-05

## HYDROLOGY

US Army Corps of Engineers

**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Great Plains Region**

Project/Site: I-70 EAST City/County: ADAMS Sampling Date: 9/1/2012  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: 285-06  
 Investigator(s): ATKINS (MCFELDOWNEY) Section, Township, Range: S28, T3S, R66W  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ROADSIDE DITCH Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 41%  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR G Lat: 39.76095971 Long: -104.7757031 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: PLATNER LOAM, 0 to 3% Slopes NWI classification: NONE  
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No      (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No       
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>	
Remarks: <u>BETWEEN I-70 AND WALMART WHERE WB ONRAMP JOINS HIGHWAY. PEM, DEPRESSIONAL, ROADSIDE DITCH</u>	

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC (excluding FAC-): <u>2</u> (A)  Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)  Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
4. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b> Total % Cover of: <u>    </u> Multiply by: OBL species <u>    </u> x 1 = <u>    </u> FACW species <u>    </u> x 2 = <u>    </u> FAC species <u>    </u> x 3 = <u>    </u> FACU species <u>    </u> x 4 = <u>    </u> UPL species <u>    </u> x 5 = <u>    </u> Column Totals: <u>    </u> (A) <u>    </u> (B)  Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    </u>
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
3. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				<b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b> <u>X</u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> <u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.  <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No <u>    </u>
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>3 ft</u> )				
1. <u>HORDEUM jubatum</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
2. <u>Echinochloa crus-galli</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>FACW</u>	
3. <u>Rumex crispus</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
4. <u>Kochia scoparia</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NIL</u>	
5. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
6. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
7. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
8. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>100</u> = Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>    </u> )				
1. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
2. <u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	
<u>    </u> = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>0</u>				
Remarks: <u>PEM.</u>				



Sampling Point: 285-06

[illegible]

## HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:		Wetland Hydrology Indicators:	
<b>Primary Indicators</b> (minimum of one required; check all that apply)		<b>Secondary Indicators</b> (minimum of two required)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
<input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) <b>(where tilled)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)	<input type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) <b>(where not tilled)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) (LRR F)
<input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)			
<b>Field Observations:</b>		<b>Wetland Hydrology Present?</b> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Surface Water Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____			
Water Table Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____			
Saturation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____ (includes capillary fringe)			
Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available: _____			
<b>Remarks:</b> Expect this site to have saturated soils in spring/early summer.			

# **Attachment N – Appendix D**

## **FACWet Data Forms**



## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		Date of Evaluation: 9/2/2012 WET 274-01 WET 274-02	
Site Name or ID:	SOUTH PLATTE RIVER		Project Name: I-70 EAST
404 or Other Permit Application #:			Applicant Name: CDOT
Evaluator Name(s):	R. McELWAIN		Evaluator's professional position and organization: WETLAND SCIENTIST ATTAINS
<b>Location Information:</b>			
Site Location (Lat./Long. or UTM):	SOUTH PLATTE AT I-70 - SEE MAPS		Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83): WGS 84
39.7795, -104.9777			
USGS Quadrangle Map:	Commerce City	Map Scale: (Circle one)	1:24,000    1:100,000 Other    1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):	10190003 - MIDDLE SOUTH PLATTE - CHERRY CREEK	Wetland Ownership:	CITY OF DENVER
<b>Project Information:</b>			
This evaluation is being performed at: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site (Check applicable box)		Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)	
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation			
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured GPS <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:	WETLAND DELINEATION BOUNDARY, THE AA INCLUDES TWO FRINGE WETLANDS ADJACENT TO THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER.		
Notes:			



## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

Check all that apply

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?

- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?

- ☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?

- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☒ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

#### Current Conditions

Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.

HGM Setting	Water source	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical	Bi-directional	
	Wetland Gradient	0 - 2%	2-4%	4-10%	>10%
	# Surface Inlets	Over-bank	0	1	2
	# Surface Outlets		0	1	2
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	WETLAND FRINGE ON ACTIVE FLOODPLAIN BENCH ADJACENT TO SOUTH PLATTE RIVER IN URBAN SETTING.			
	HGM class	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine

#### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	Water source	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical		
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description)	SAME AS ABOVE, THOUGH THE FLOODPLAIN WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH BROADER AND THE CHANNEL WOULD NOT BE CONFINED.			
	Previous HGM Class	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

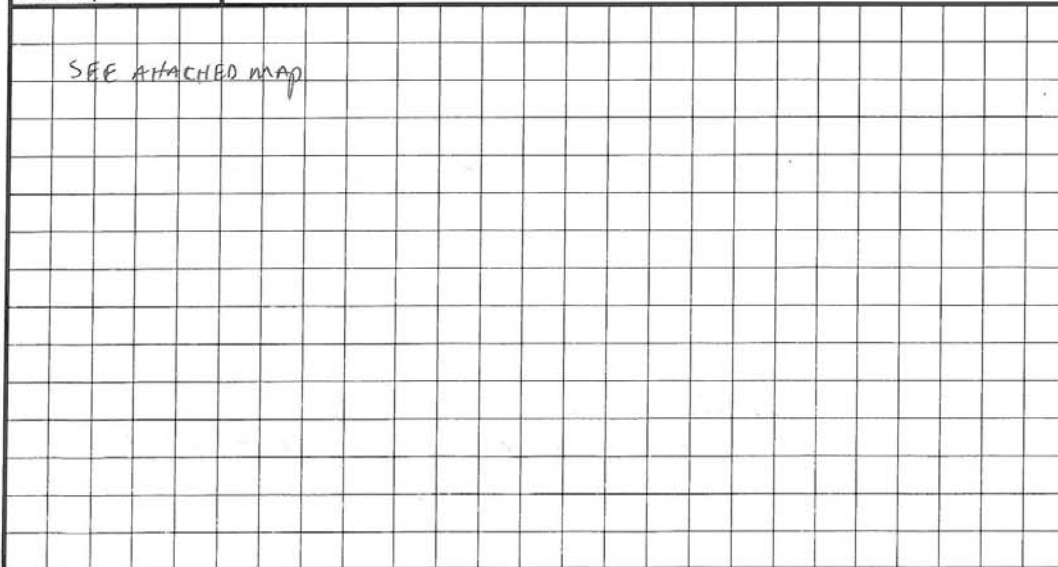
US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).

System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
PALUSTRINE	PALUSTRINE	SS	BL DECIDUOUS	SEASONALLY FLOODED	EXCAVATED	50
PALUSTRINE	PALUSTRINE	EM	PERSISTENT	SEASONALLY FLOODED	EXCAVATED	50
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom (UB) Aquatic Bed (AB) Rocky Shore (RS) Uncon Shore (US) Emergent (EM) Shrub-scrub (SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded (A); Saturated (B); Seasonally flooded (C); Seas.-flood./sat. (E); Semi-Perm. flooded (F); Intermittently exposed (G); Artificially flooded (K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permanent (Z)	Hypersaline (7); Eusaline (8); Mixosaline (9); Fresh (0); Acid (a); Circumneutral (c); Alkaline/calcareous (l); Organic (g); Mineral (n); Beaver (b); Partially Drained/ditched (d); Farmed (f); Diked/impounded (h); Artificial Substrate (r); Spoil (s); Excavated (x)	
Palustrine	Palustrine					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features.

Scale: 1 sq. =



### Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss

This variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetland or riparian habitat the AA has become as a result of the loss of that habitat. To score this variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within a 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This surrounding area is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). Historical photographs and NWI and hydric soils maps can be helpful in scoring this variable. In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment in estimating the amount of natural wetland loss. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change should be used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE. This variable is not meant to penalize AAs that are naturally isolated, or unique to the landscape. Rather, it should measure the degree to which natural habitat connectivity has been lost.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 meter perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research could be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area values to determine the percentage of naturally occurring wetland habitat that remains in the HCE, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below.

Variable Score	Condition Category	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Variable 1 Score

0.1

Notes:

SITE OCCURS IN A HIGHLY URBANIZED SETTING WHERE THE ONLY WETLANDS THAT OCCUR WITHIN THE HCE OCCUR AS A FRINGE ADJACENT TO THE RIVER.

## Variable 2: Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline all existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	X	Major Highway	I-70 CROSSING OVER RIVER
	X	Secondary Highway	OFF RAMPS FROM I-70
	X	Tertiary Roadway	ON EITHER SIDE OF RIVER
	X	Railroad	BRIDGE
	X	Bike Path	ADJACENT TO RIVER
	X	Urban Development	DOWNTOWN DENVER
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
		Ditch or Aqueduct	
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

LOTS OF BARRIERS TO DISPERSAL. ONLY  
VIABLE DISPERSAL IS TO HABITATS UP AND DOWNSTREAM  
ON THE SOUTH PLATTE.

Variable 2 Score

0.5



### Variable 3: Buffer Capacity

The buffer area is defined as a 250-meter-wide belt surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to function as an effective buffer for the wetland against the deleterious effects of surrounding land use change. To score the variable, assume that the AA is 100% buffered except where land use changes inside the buffer area have diminished this quality. Identify these land use types as specific stressors in the list. For each stressor, rate severity and extent within the buffer area; then use this list to make an overall rating for the buffer's departure from reference conditions. When rating buffer capacity, consider both the intensity of the impact and the proximity of the stressor to the AA.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photograph, delimit the buffer area (BA) as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Use the stressor list to record land use changes that affect buffering capacity within the buffer area. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering all of the identified stressors, their composite severity, extent and proximity to the AA assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	✗	Industrial/commercial	RAILYARDS, FAST FOOD
	✗	Urban	ROADS, HIGHWAYS, PARKING LOTS
	✗	Residential	HOUSING AREAS
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	✗	Transportation Corridor	
		Urban Parklands	
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed within the TBA and it provides the full buffering capacity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the BA, but such changes little impair the area's ability to provide a buffering function, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the BA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	BA has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its original buffering capacity. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the BA has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surface; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. While, the buffering capacity of the land has been greatly diminished it is not extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and some cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The area within the BA provides essentially no buffering capacity. Many Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes would rate a score of less than 0.6.

NOT BUFFERED, DIRECT DISCHARGE FROM URBAN LANDSCAPE INTO RIVER AND ADJ. WETLANDS,

Variable 3 score

0.0

### Variable 4: Water Source

This variable is concerned with up-gradient hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of the impacts to the AA's water source, including the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. For riverine systems, this variable is primarily concerned with the connection of the channel to the floodplain. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 8.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
X	Dams	CHATFIELD RESERVOIR
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
	Culverts or Constrictions	
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
X	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	URBAN ENVIRONMENT
X	Impermeable Surface Runoff	URBAN DENVER
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

THE WETLANDS THAT EXIST HAVE DEVELOPED UNDER A COMPLETELY ARTIFICIAL SYSTEM.

Variable 4 Score

0.5

## Variable 5: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally result from geomorphic modifications. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph within the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Distribution, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control on the wetland's capacity to distribute water in a characteristic fashion and exhibit a natural hydrograph.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Enlarged Channel	
Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
Weirs	
Dikes/Levees/Berms	
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

WATER DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE AA IS NOT AN ISSUE. WATER DELIVERY TO THE

Variable 5 Score

0.5

AA IS THE OVERRIDING CONTROL OF WATER IN THE AA.

## Variable 6: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with down-gradient hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water (transporting materials and energy) out of the AA. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, and infiltration/groundwater recharge. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. In Variable 5, the stressors were evaluated in light of their impact on water distribution within the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on the AA's ability to export water, energy and associated materials to habitats down-gradient of the AA. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Outflow, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control over the wetland's capacity to export water and associated materials.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
Ditches	
Dikes/Levees	
Road Grades	
Culverts	
Diversions	
Constrictions	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Artificial Stream Banks	
Weirs	
Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

AS FRINGE WETLANDS THERE IS NO IMPEDIMENT TO WATER OUTFLOW.  
SCORE IS LIMITED BY WATER SOURCE SCORE.

Variable 6 Score

0.5



## Variable 7: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, diking, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems geomorphic changes to stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA. Alterations may include bed surface changes (embeddedness or morphology changes), stream bank instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alteration can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment, such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, do not include the resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration. The effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which constitute important, but not immediately apparent, impacts.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

	Stressors	Comments
General	Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
	Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc	URBANIZATION OF RIVER CORRIDOR
	Grading	URBAN LANDSCAPE
	Compaction	
	Plowing/Disking	
	Excessive Sedimentation	
	Dumping	
	Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
	Sand Accumulation	
	Channel Instability/Over Widening	
Channels Only	Excessive Bank Erosion	
	Channelization	URBANIZATION - LOSS OF FLOODPLAIN
	Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	RIPPED BANKS
	Beaver Dam Removal	
	Substrate Embeddedness	
	Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

FRINGE WETLANDS ARE GREATLY REDUCED IN SIZE AND FUNCTIONALITY DUE TO CHANNELIZATION AND ENGINEERING CONTROL OF THE SOUTH PLATTE.

Variable 7  
Score

0.4

## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants and water quality. The origin of pollutants may be in the AA or delivered from up-gradient or surrounding areas. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of many stressors is identified via indirect indicators.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into categories which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each stressor category, determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. Determine the variable score by following the scoring guidelines.

Stressor Category	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock			0.5
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓	URBAN RAIN.	
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List	✓	E. coli, AS	
Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.5
	Excessive Deposition			
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
Toxic contamination/ pH	Recent Chemical Spills			0.5
	Nearby Industrial Sites	✓		
	Road Drainage/Runoff	✓		
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff	✓		
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List	✓		
Temperature	Excessive Temperature Regime			0.5
	Lack of Shading	✓		
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
	Industrial Discharge			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			0.5
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance			
	Dumping/introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			

## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system.

Input each factor score from the stressor list and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Toxic contamination/ pH	Temperature	Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.5

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.7 but < 0.8	or	The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7	or	The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6	or	The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 8 Score

0.5

## Variable 9: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It is particularly relevant to the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, although it also affects primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation cover class that would normally be present for the wetland type being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination. Check each present or suspected vegetation layer in the third row of the table.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate the percent coverage of each vegetation layer. Aerial photographs can be helpful for this but are not required. In cases where a stratum has been thinned or removed, enter the expected coverage of that layer **not** the current percent coverage.
4. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
5. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table.
6. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score".
7. Add the "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" and enter the sum in the labeled cell to the right of the individual scores. Follow this same process for the "Percent Cover of Layer".
8. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 9 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

Layers Scored (check boxes to right to indicate scored layers)	Vegetation Layers				Comments
	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	
Noxious Weeds					
Exotic/Invasive spp.			✓		
Tree Harvest	✓				
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal		✓			
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying					
Herbicide			✓		
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization	✓	✓	✓		
Dewatering					
Over Saturation					
URBANIZATION	✓	✓	✓		

Percent Cover of Layer	30	+	40	+	75	+		=	145
	x		x		x		x		

Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score	0.5	0.6	0.6			÷

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

Weighted Sub-variable Score	15	+	24	+	45	+		=	84
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Variable 9 Score

0.6



**Sub-variable 9 Scoring Guidelines:**

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<i>Reference Standard</i>	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<i>Highly Functioning</i>	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<i>Functioning</i>	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<i>Non-functioning</i>	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.

## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

### VARIABLE SCORE TABLE

Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss	0.1
	Variable 2:	Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers	0.5
	Variable 3:	Buffer Capacity	0.0
Hydrology	Variable 4:	Water Source	0.5
	Variable 5:	Water Distribution	0.5
	Variable 6:	Water Outflow	0.5
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 7:	Geomorphology	0.4
	Variable 8:	Chemical Environment	0.5
	Variable 9:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity	0.6

### Functional Capacity Indices

#### Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat

$$V1_{wetloss} + V2_{barriers} + V3_{buffer} + (2 \times V9_{veg}) = 0.1 + 0.5 + 0.0 + 1.2 = 1.8 \div 5 = 0.360$$

#### Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat

$$(3 \times V4_{source}) + (2 \times V5_{dist}) + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V8_{chem} + V7_{geom} = 1.5 + 1.0 + 1.0 + 0.5 + 0.4 = 4.4 \div 9 = 0.489$$

#### Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation

$$V3_{buffer} + 2 \times V4_{source} + (2 \times V5_{dist}) + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V7_{geom} + V9_{veg} = 0.0 + 1.0 + 1.0 + 1.0 + 0.4 + 0.6 = 4.0 \div 9 = 0.444$$

#### Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage

$$V4_{source} + (2 \times V5_{dist}) + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V7_{geom} = 0.5 + 1.0 + 1.0 + 0.4 = 2.9 \div 6 = 0.483$$

#### Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal

$$(2 \times V5_{dist}) + V8_{chem} + V7_{geom} = 1.0 + 0.5 + 0.4 = 1.9 \div 4 = 0.475$$

#### Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization

$$V3_{buffer} + (2 \times V7_{geo}) + (2 \times V9_{veg}) = 0 + 0.8 + 1.2 = 2.0 \div 5 = 0.400$$

#### Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support

$$V1_{wetloss} + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V8_{chem} + V7_{geo} + (2 \times V9_{veg}) = 0.1 + 1.0 + 0.5 + 0.4 + 1.2 = 3.2 \div 7 = 0.457$$

Sum of Individual FCI Scores 3.109

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored  $\div 7$

**Composite FCI Score** 0.444

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		WET 276-02 TITLE WET 278-11		Date of Evaluation: 11/8/2012
Site Name or ID:	SAND CREEK		Project Name: I-70 EAST EIS	
404 or Other Permit Application #:	—		Applicant Name: CDOT	
Evaluator Name(s):	R. McELDOWNNEY		Evaluator's professional position and organization: WETLAND SCIENTIST ATKINS	
<b>Location Information:</b>				
Site Location (Lat./Long. or UTM):	SAND CREEK AT I-70 AND QUEBEC ST.		Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83)	WGS 84
USGS Quadrangle Map:	Commerce City		Map Scale: (Circle one)	1:24,000 1:100,000 Other 1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):	10190003- MIDDLE SOUTH PLATE-CHERRY CREEK		Wetland Ownership:	
<b>Project Information:</b>				
This evaluation is being performed at:		Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site (Check applicable box)				
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation				
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	GPS/GIS	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated		
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	ac.	ac.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	ac.	ac.
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:	WETLAND DELINEATION BOUNDARY. THE AA INCLUDES MULTIPLE POLYgons BECAUSE THEY ALL OCCUR ADJ. TO SAND CRK AND ARE SUBJECT TO THE SAME STRESSORS.			
Notes:				

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

Check all that apply

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?
- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?
- ☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?
- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☒ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

#### Current Conditions

Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.

HGM Setting	Water source	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown		
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical	Bi-directional			
	Wetland Gradient	0 - 2%	2-4%	4-10%	>10%		
	# Surface Inlets	Over-bank	0	1	2	3	>3
	# Surface Outlets		0	1	2	3	>3
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	SAND CREEK FLOODPLAIN					
	HGM class	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine		

#### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	Water source	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical		
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description)	SAND CREEK FLOODPLAIN.			
	Previous HGM Class	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):



## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

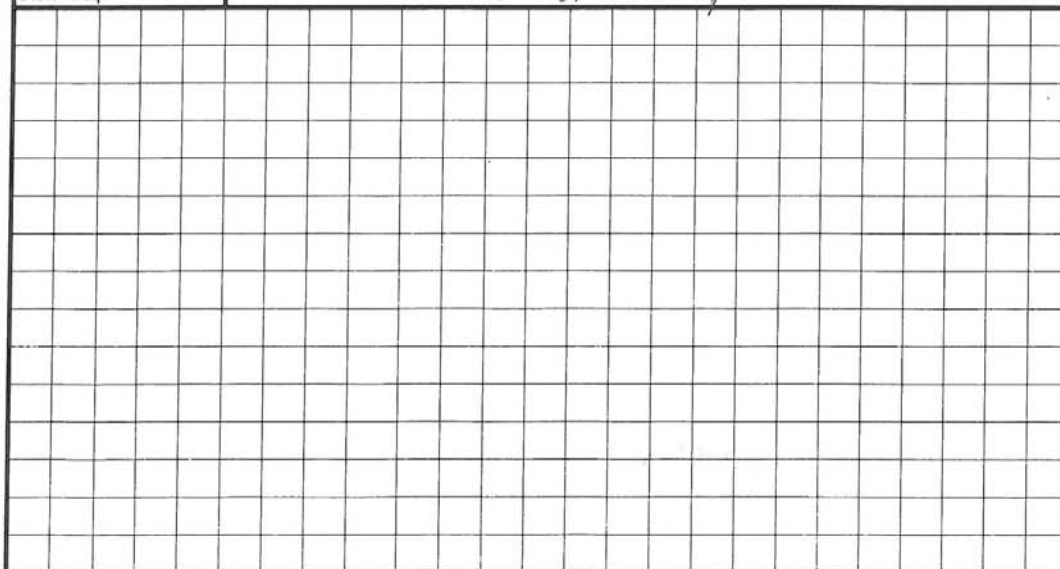
US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).

System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
Palustrine	Palustrine	EM	Persistent	B, C	—	25
Palustrine	Palustrine	SS	BL-Deciduous	B, C	—	75
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom (UB) Aquatic Bed (AB) Rocky Shore (RS) Uncon Shore (US) Emergent (EM) Shrub-scrub (SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded (A); Saturated (B); Seasonally flooded (C); Seas.-flood./sat. (E); Semi-Perm. flooded (F); Intermittently exposed (G); Artificially flooded (K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permanent (Z)	Hypersaline (7); Eusaline (8); Mixosaline (9); Fresh (0); Acid (a); Circumneutral (c); Alkaline/calcareous (i); Organic (g); Mineral (n); Beaver (b); Partially Drained/ditched (d); Famed (f); Diked/impounded (h); Artificial Substrate (r); Spoil (s); Excavated (x)	
Palustrine	Palustrine					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

Scale: 1 sq. =

Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features. *SEE AERIAL MAP.*



### Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss

This variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetland or riparian habitat the AA has become as a result of the loss of that habitat. To score this variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within a 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This surrounding area is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). Historical photographs and NWI and hydric soils maps can be helpful in scoring this variable. In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment in estimating the amount of natural wetland loss. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change should be used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE. This variable is not meant to penalize AAs that are naturally isolated, or unique to the landscape. Rather, it should measure the degree to which natural habitat connectivity has been lost.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 meter perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research could be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area values to determine the percentage of naturally occurring wetland habitat that remains in the HCE, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below.

Variable Score	Condition Category	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Variable 1 Score

0.65

#### Notes:

URBAN SETTING WHERE ALL OF THE RIPARIAN/WETLAND HABITAT THAT MAY HAVE NATURALLY OCCURRED AWAY FROM SAND CREEK HAS BEEN CONVERTED AND THE RIPARIAN/WETLAND HABITAT ALONG SAND CREEK HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED.

## Variable 2: Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline all existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	✓	Major Highway	I-70
	✓	Secondary Highway	QUINCY AVE BRIDGE
	✓	Tertiary Roadway	
		Railroad	
	✓	Bike Path	BIKE PATH
	✓	Urban Development	SURROUNDS SITE
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
		Ditch or Aqueduct	
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	
	✓	CHECK DAMS	CHECK DAMS W/ GROUTED RIPRAP LIKE PREVENT UPSTREAM MIGRATIONS OF AQUATIC ORG.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

CONNECTIVITY IS ONLY UP AND DOWNSTREAM,  
ALONG SAND CREEK.

Variable 2 Score

0.65

### Variable 3: Buffer Capacity

The buffer area is defined as a 250-meter-wide belt surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to function as an effective buffer for the wetland against the deleterious effects of surrounding land use change. To score the variable, assume that the AA is 100% buffered except where land use changes inside the buffer area have diminished this quality. Identify these land use types as specific stressors in the list. For each stressor, rate severity and extent within the buffer area; then use this list to make an overall rating for the buffer's departure from reference conditions. When rating buffer capacity, consider both the intensity of the impact and the proximity of the stressor to the AA.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photograph, delimit the buffer area (BA) as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Use the stressor list to record land use changes that affect buffering capacity within the buffer area. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering all of the identified stressors, their composite severity, extent and proximity to the AA assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	✓	Industrial/commercial	HOTELS
	✓	Urban	ROADS, PARKING LOTS
	✓	Residential	CONDOMINIUMS
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	✓	Transportation Corridor	I-70 HIGHWAY
	✓	Urban Parklands	AA IS A GREENWAY WITH A BIKE PATH
	✓	Dams/impoundments	CHECK DAMS W/ GRouted RIPRAP
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed within the TBA and it provides the full buffering capacity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the BA, but such changes little impair the area's ability to provide a buffering function, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the BA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	BA has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its original buffering capacity. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the BA has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surface; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. While, the buffering capacity of the land has been greatly diminished it is not extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and some cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The area within the BA provides essentially no buffering capacity. Many Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes would rate a score of less than 0.6.

DEVELOPMENT DOES NOT GO RIGHT UP TO SAND CREEK, SO THERE IS SOME BUFFER CAPACITY.

Variable 3 score

0.6



#### Variable 4: Water Source

This variable is concerned with up-gradient hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of the impacts to the AA's water source, including the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. For riverine systems, this variable is primarily concerned with the connection of the channel to the floodplain. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 8.

##### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
✓	Dams	QUINCY RESERVOIR OCCURS ON A TLEB. TO SAND CREEK
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
✓	Culverts or Constrictions	BRIDGES
✓	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
✓	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
✓	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	
✓	Impermeable Surface Runoff	URBAN ENV. FOR MOST OF ITS WATERSHED W/S FROM AA
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

IMPERMEABLE SURFACES ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUE - INCREASE IN FLOW VOLUMES AND FLASHINESS OF THE SYSTEM.

Variable 4 Score **0.65**

## Variable 5: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally **result** from geomorphic modifications. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph within the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Distribution, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control on the wetland's capacity to distribute water in a characteristic fashion and exhibit a natural hydrograph.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
✓ Channel Incision/Entrenchment	MODERATE AMOUNT HAS LARGELY BEEN ADDRESSED BY CHECK DAMS.
✓ Hardened/Engineered Channel	CHECK DAM WITH GRAVEL RIPRAP APRONS
✓ Enlarged Channel	LIKELY
Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
Weirs	
✓ Dikes/Levees/Berms	IN THE VICINITY OF BRIDGES
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

MOSTLY INFLUENCED BY WATER SOURCE

Variable 5 Score

0.65

### Variable 6: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with down-gradient hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water (transporting materials and energy) out of the AA. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, and infiltration/groundwater recharge. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. In Variable 5, the stressors were evaluated in light of their impact on water distribution within the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on the AA's ability to export water, energy and associated materials to habitats down-gradient of the AA. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Outflow, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control over the wetland's capacity to export water and associated materials.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
Ditches	
Dikes/Levees	
Road Grades	
Culverts	
Diversions	
Constrictions	
✓ Channel Incision/Entrenchment	MODERATE ADJACENT
✓ Hardened/Engineered Channel	CHECK DAMS w/ GRAVELLED RIPRAP
✓ Artificial Stream Banks	SOME RIPRAPPED BANKS
Weirs	
✓ Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

MOSTLY AFFECTED BY WATER SOURCE.

Variable 6 Score

0.65

## Variable 7: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, diking, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems geomorphic changes to stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA. Alterations may include bed surface changes (embeddedness or morphology changes), stream bank instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alteration can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment, such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, do not include the resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration. The effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which constitute important, but not immediately apparent, impacts.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors	Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grading	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compaction	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plowing/Disking	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excessive Sedimentation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dumping	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hoof Shear/Pugging	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sand Accumulation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Channel Instability/Over Widening	LIKELY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excessive Bank Erosion	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Channelization	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reconfigured Stream Channels	CHECK DAMS W/ GROUTED RIPRAP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Artificial Banks/Shoreline	SHORT SEGMENTS OF RIPRAP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beaver Dam Removal	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substrate Embeddedness	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

CONSTRUCTIONS AND LOSS OF FLOODPLAIN AND  
ALTERATIONS CAUSED BY INC. WATER FLOW  
ARE MAIN REASONS FOR THIS RATING.

Variable 7  
Score

0.69



## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants and water quality. The origin of pollutants may be in the AA or delivered from up-gradient or surrounding areas. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of many stressors is identified via indirect indicators.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into categories which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each stressor category, determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. Determine the variable score by following the scoring guidelines.

Stressor Category	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock	✓		0.65
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List	✓	E. coli	
Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.65
	Excessive Deposition			
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site	✓		
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
Toxic contamination/ pH	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			0.6
	Recent Chemical Spills			
	Nearby Industrial Sites	✓		
	Road Drainage/Runoff	✓		
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff			
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge			
Temperature	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List	✓	Se	0.6
	Metal staining on rocks and veg.			
	Excessive Temperature Regime			
	Lack of Shading	✓		
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Industrial Discharge			0.75
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance			
	Dumping/introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			

## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each factor score from the stressor list and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.65	+	0.65	+	0.6	+	0.6	+	0.75	=	3.25

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 7.0 but < 0.8	or	The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7	or	The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6	or	The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 8 Score

0.65

## Variable 9: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It is particularly relevant to the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, although it also affects primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation cover class that would normally be present for the wetland type being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination. Check each present or suspected vegetation layer in the third row of the table.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate the percent coverage of each vegetation layer. Aerial photographs can be helpful for this but are not required. In cases where a stratum has been thinned or removed, enter the expected coverage of that layer **not** the current percent coverage.
4. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
5. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table.
6. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score".
7. Add the "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" and enter the sum in the labeled cell to the right of the individual scores. Follow this same process for the "Percent Cover of Layer".
8. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 9 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

Layers Scored (check boxes to right to indicate scored layers)	Vegetation Layers				Comments
	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	
Noxious Weeds			✓		
Exotic/Invasive spp.	✓		✓		CHINESE FLM, REED CANARYGRASS
Tree Harvest	✓				
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal		✓			
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying					
Herbicide					
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization	✓	✓	✓		LITTLE RECRUITMENT OCCURRING
Dewatering					
Over Saturation					

Percent Cover of Layer	.30	+	.40	+	.75	+		=	1.45
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	x		x		x		x	
Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score	0.6		0.6		0.75			

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

Weighted Sub-variable Score	0.18	+	0.24	+	0.56	+		=	0.98
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Variable 9 Score

0.68

**Sub-variable 9 Scoring Guidelines:**

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<i>Reference Standard</i>	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<i>Highly Functioning</i>	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<i>Functioning</i>	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<i>Non-functioning</i>	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.



## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

### VARIABLE SCORE TABLE

Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss	0.65
	Variable 2:	Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers	0.65
	Variable 3:	Buffer Capacity	0.60
Hydrology	Variable 4:	Water Source	0.65
	Variable 5:	Water Distribution	0.65
	Variable 6:	Water Outflow	0.65
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 7:	Geomorphology	0.69
	Variable 8:	Chemical Environment	0.65
	Variable 9:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity	0.68

### Functional Capacity Indices

#### Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat

$$V1_{\text{wetloss}} + V2_{\text{barriers}} + V3_{\text{buffer}} + (2 \times V9_{\text{veg}}) = 0.65 + 0.65 + 0.60 + 1.36 = 3.26 \div 5 = 0.652$$

#### Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat

$$(3 \times V4_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V8_{\text{chem}} + V7_{\text{geom}} = 1.95 + 1.3 + 1.3 + 0.65 + 0.69 = 5.89 \div 9 = 0.654$$

#### Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation

$$V3_{\text{buffer}} + 2 \times V4_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V7_{\text{geom}} + V9_{\text{veg}} = 0.60 + 1.30 + 1.30 + 1.30 + 0.69 + 0.68 = 5.87 \div 9 = 0.652$$

#### Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage

$$V4_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V7_{\text{geom}} = 0.65 + 1.30 + 1.30 + 0.69 = 3.94 \div 6 = 0.657$$

#### Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal

$$(2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + V8_{\text{chem}} + V7_{\text{geom}} = 1.30 + 0.65 + 0.69 = 2.64 \div 4 = 0.660$$

#### Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization

$$V3_{\text{buffer}} + (2 \times V7_{\text{geo}}) + (2 \times V9_{\text{veg}}) = 0.60 + 1.38 + 1.36 = 3.34 \div 5 = 0.668$$

#### Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support

$$V1_{\text{wetloss}} + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V8_{\text{chem}} + V7_{\text{geo}} + (2 \times V9_{\text{veg}}) = 0.65 + 1.30 + 0.65 + 0.69 + 1.36 = 4.65 \div 7 = 0.664$$

Sum of Individual FCI Scores

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored  $\div 7$

Composite FCI Score 0.658

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		<i>ROADSIDE DITCH WETLANDS</i>		Date of Evaluation: <i>9/2/2012</i>	
Site Name or ID: <i>280-5, 281-01 HAWK 06, 284-01, 285-01 HAWK 06</i>		Project Name: <i>I-70 EAST EIS</i>			
404 or Other Permit Application #:		Applicant Name: <i>CDOT</i>			
Evaluator Name(s): <i>R. McELDOWNNEY</i>		Evaluator's professional position and organization: <i>WETLAND SCIENTIST ATKINS</i>			
<b>Location Information:</b>					
Site Location (Lat/Long. or UTM):		<i>VARIOUS ROADSIDE LOCATIONS IN EASTERN 1/2 OF PROJ. AREA</i>		Geographic Datum Used: <i>NAD 83</i>	
USGS Quadrangle Map:		<i>MONTIBELLO</i>		Map Scale: (Circle one) <i>1:24,000</i> 1:100,000 Other 1:	
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):		<i>10190003 - MIDDLE SOUTH PLATE - CHERRY CREEK</i>		Wetland Ownership: <i>CDOT</i>	
<b>Project Information:</b>					
This evaluation is being performed at: (Check applicable box)		<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland  <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site             </div> <div>                 Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable):  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands  <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction  <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction  <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)             </div> </div>			
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation					
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)		ac. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured <i>GPS/GIS</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated			
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)		ac. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured    ac.    ac.    ac.    ac. <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated    ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.			
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:		<i>WETLAND DELINEATION BOUNDARIES. MULTIPLE AAs ARE INCLUDED IN THIS BECAUSE THEY ALL OCCUR IN ROADSIDE DITCHES AND ARE SUBJECT TO THE SAME STRESSORS.</i>			
Notes:		<i>SITES ARE "NOVEL" WETLANDS THAT HAVE SPONTANEOUSLY DEVELOPED IN PROJECT AREA ROADSIDE DITCHES.</i>			

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

Check all that apply

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?
- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?
- ☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?
- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☐ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

#### Current Conditions

Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.

HGM Setting	Water source	<u>Surface flow</u>	<u>Groundwater</u>	Precipitation	Unknown
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical	<u>Bi-directional</u>	
	Wetland Gradient	<u>0 - 2%</u>	2-4%	4-10%	>10%
	# Surface Inlets	Over-bank	0	<u>1</u>	2 3 >3
	# Surface Outlets		0	<u>1</u>	2 3 >3
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	ROADSIDE DITCHES			
	HGM class	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

#### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	Water source	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical		
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description)				
	Previous HGM Class	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):

THESE ROADSIDE DITCH WETLANDS ARE "NOVEL" AND HAVE NO GOOD NATURAL ANALOG.

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

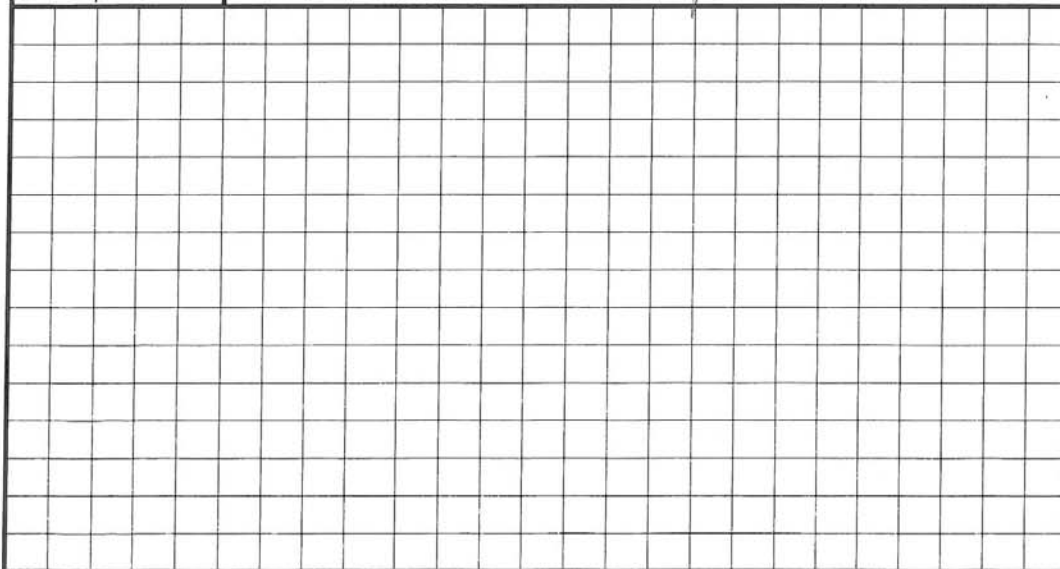
US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).

System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
PALUSTRINE	PALUSTRINE	EM	PERSISTENT	A, B, E	X	80
PALUSTRINE	PALUSTRINE	SS	BLODECIDUOUS	A, B, E	X	20
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom (UB) Aquatic Bed (AB) Rocky Shore (RS) Uncon Shore (US) Emergent (EM) Shrub-scrub (SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded(A); Saturated(B); Seasonally flooded(C); Seas.-flood./sat.(E); Semi-Perm. flooded(F); Intermittently exposed(G); Artificially flooded(K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permanent(Z)	Hypersaline(7); Eusaline(8); Mixosaline(9); Fresh(0); Acid(a); Circumneutral(c); Alkaline/calcareous(i); Organic(g); Mineral(n); Beaver(b); Partially Drained/ditched(d); Farmed(f); Diked/impounded(h); Artificial Substrate(r); Spoil(s); Excavated(x)	
PALUSTRINE	PALUSTRINE					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

Scale: 1 sq. =

Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features. *SEE AERIAL MAP.*





### Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss

This variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetland or riparian habitat the AA has become as a result of the loss of that habitat. To score this variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within a 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This surrounding area is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). Historical photographs and NWI and hydric soils maps can be helpful in scoring this variable. In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment in estimating the amount of natural wetland loss. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change should be used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE. This variable is not meant to penalize AAs that are naturally isolated, or unique to the landscape. Rather, it should measure the degree to which natural habitat connectivity has been lost.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 meter perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research could be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area values to determine the percentage of naturally occurring wetland habitat that remains in the HCE, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below.

Variable Score	Condition Category	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Variable 1 Score

0.75

Notes:

It appears likely that naturally occurring wetlands were relatively scarce in this area historically.

## Variable 2: Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline all existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	✓	Major Highway	I-70
	✓	Secondary Highway	SIDE STREETS
		Tertiary Roadway	
		Railroad	
		Bike Path	
	✓	Urban Development	HOUSES, PARKING LOTS, INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
		Ditch or Aqueduct	
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

URBAN SETTING

Variable 2 Score 0.65

### Variable 3: Buffer Capacity

The buffer area is defined as a 250-meter-wide belt surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to function as an effective buffer for the wetland against the deleterious effects of surrounding land use change. To score the variable, assume that the AA is 100% buffered except where land use changes inside the buffer area have diminished this quality. Identify these land use types as specific stressors in the list. For each stressor, rate severity and extent within the buffer area; then use this list to make an overall rating for the buffer's departure from reference conditions. When rating buffer capacity, consider both the intensity of the impact and the proximity of the stressor to the AA.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photograph, delimit the buffer area (BA) as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Use the stressor list to record land use changes that affect buffering capacity within the buffer area. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering all of the identified stressors, their composite severity, extent and proximity to the AA assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	✓	Industrial/commercial	
	✓	Urban	
	✓	Residential	
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
		Transportation Corridor	
		Urban Parklands	
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed within the TBA and it provides the full buffering capacity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the BA, but such changes little impair the area's ability to provide a buffering function, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the BA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	BA has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its original buffering capacity. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the BA has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surface; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. While, the buffering capacity of the land has been greatly diminished it is not extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and some cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The area within the BA provides essentially no buffering capacity. Many Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes would rate a score of less than 0.6.

BUFFERS EXIST BUT ARE MINIMAL B/C OF REMEDIATION/ URBAN LOCATIONS.

Variable 3 score

0.6

### Variable 4: Water Source

This variable is concerned with up-gradient hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of the impacts to the AA's water source, including the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. For riverine systems, this variable is primarily concerned with the connection of the channel to the floodplain. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 8.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
✓	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
	Dams	
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
	Culverts or Constrictions	
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
✓	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
✓	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	
✓	Impermeable Surface Runoff	
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

URBAN SETTINGS ADJACENT TO A MAJOR TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR.

Variable 4 Score **0.6**



## Variable 5: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally **result** from geomorphic modifications. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph within the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Distribution, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control on the wetland's capacity to distribute water in a characteristic fashion and exhibit a natural hydrograph.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Enlarged Channel	
Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
Weirs	
Dikes/Levees/Berms	
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

WATER SOURCE IS MAIN FACTOR.

Variable 5 Score

0.6

## Variable 6: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with down-gradient hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water (transporting materials and energy) out of the AA. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, and infiltration/groundwater recharge. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. In Variable 5, the stressors were evaluated in light of their impact on water distribution within the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on the AA's ability to export water, energy and associated materials to habitats down-gradient of the AA. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Outflow, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control over the wetland's capacity to export water and associated materials.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
✓ Ditches	
Dikes/Levees	
✓ Road Grades	
✓ Culverts	
Diversions	
Constrictions	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
✓ Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Artificial Stream Banks	
Weirs	
Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

Variable 6 Score

0.6

## Variable 7: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, diking, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems geomorphic changes to stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA. Alterations may include bed surface changes (embeddedness or morphology changes), stream bank instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alteration can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment, such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, do not include the resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration. The effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which constitute important, but not immediately apparent, impacts.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

	Stressors	Comments
General	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grading	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Compaction	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plowing/Disking	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excessive Sedimentation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Dumping	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sand Accumulation	ROAD SAND CAN POTENTIALLY ACCUMULATE
Channels Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Channel Instability/Over Widening	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excessive Bank Erosion	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Channelization	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Beaver Dam Removal	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Substrate Embeddedness	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

**Variable 7  
Score**

0.6

## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants and water quality. The origin of pollutants may be in the AA or delivered from up-gradient or surrounding areas. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of many stressors is identified via indirect indicators.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into categories which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each stressor category, determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. Determine the variable score by following the scoring guidelines.

Stressor Category	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock	✓		0.6
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.69
	Excessive Deposition			
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
Toxic contamination/ pH	Recent Chemical Spills	✓		0.6
	Nearby Industrial Sites	✓		
	Road Drainage/Runoff	✓		
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff	✓		
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
	Metal staining on rocks and veg.			
Temperature	Excessive Temperature Regime	✓		0.65
	Lack of Shading	✓		
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
	Industrial Discharge			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			0.7
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance	✓		
	Dumping/Introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			



## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each factor score from the stressor list and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">0.6</div>	+	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">0.69</div>	+	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">0.6</div>	+	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">0.65</div>	+	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">0.7</div>	=	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">3.24</div>

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.7 but < 0.8	or	The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7	or	The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6	or	The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 8 Score

0.65

## Variable 9: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It is particularly relevant to the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, although it also affects primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation cover class that would normally be present for the wetland type being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination. Check each present or suspected vegetation layer in the third row of the table.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate the percent coverage of each vegetation layer. Aerial photographs can be helpful for this but are not required. In cases where a stratum has been thinned or removed, enter the expected coverage of that layer **not** the current percent coverage.
4. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
5. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table.
6. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score".
7. Add the "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" and enter the sum in the labeled cell to the right of the individual scores. Follow this same process for the "Percent Cover of Layer".
8. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 9 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

Layers Scored (check boxes to right to indicate scored layers)	Vegetation Layers				Comments
	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	
Noxious Weeds			✓		
Exotic/Invasive spp.			✓		
Tree Harvest					
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal		✓			
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying			✓		ROW MAINTENANCE
Herbicide			✓		NOXIOUS WEED SPRAYING
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization		✓	✓		
Dewatering		✓	✓		CHANGES IN FLOW ROUTING
Over Saturation		✓	✓		CHANGES IN FLOW ROUTING

Percent Cover of Layer		+	20	+	80	+		=	100
	x		x		x		x		
Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score			0.65		0.65			÷	
Weighted Sub-variable Score		+	13	+	52	+		=	65

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

Variable 9 Score

0.65

**Sub-variable 9 Scoring Guidelines:**

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<i>Reference Standard</i>	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<i>Highly Functioning</i>	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<i>Functioning</i>	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<i>Non-functioning</i>	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.

## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted.
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

### VARIABLE SCORE TABLE

Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss	0.75
	Variable 2:	Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers	0.65
	Variable 3:	Buffer Capacity	0.60
Hydrology	Variable 4:	Water Source	0.60
	Variable 5:	Water Distribution	0.60
	Variable 6:	Water Outflow	0.60
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 7:	Geomorphology	0.60
	Variable 8:	Chemical Environment	0.65
	Variable 9:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity	0.65

### Functional Capacity Indices

#### Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat

$$V1_{wetloss} + V2_{barriers} + V3_{buffer} + (2 \times V9_{veg})$$

$$0.750 + 0.650 + 0.600 + 1.300 = 3.30 \div 5 = 0.660$$

#### Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat

$$(3 \times V4_{source}) + (2 \times V5_{dist}) + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V8_{chem} + V7_{geom}$$

$$1.800 + 1.200 + 1.200 + 0.650 + 0.600 = 5.45 \div 9 = 0.606$$

#### Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation

$$V3_{buffer} + 2 \times V4_{source} + (2 \times V5_{dist}) + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V7_{geom} + V9_{veg}$$

$$0.600 + 1.200 + 1.200 + 1.200 + 0.600 + 0.650 = 5.45 \div 9 = 0.606$$

#### Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage

$$V4_{source} + (2 \times V5_{dist}) + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V7_{geom}$$

$$0.600 + 1.200 + 1.200 + 0.600 = 3.60 \div 6 = 0.600$$

#### Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal

$$(2 \times V5_{dist}) + V8_{chem} + V7_{geom}$$

$$1.200 + 0.650 + 0.600 = 2.45 \div 4 = 0.613$$

#### Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization

$$V3_{buffer} + (2 \times V7_{geo}) + (2 \times V9_{veg})$$

$$0.600 + 1.200 + 1.300 = 3.10 \div 5 = 0.620$$

#### Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support

$$V1_{wetloss} + 2 \times V6_{outflow} + V8_{chem} + V7_{geo} + (2 \times V9_{veg})$$

$$0.750 + 1.200 + 0.650 + 0.600 + 1.300 = 4.5 \div 7 = 0.643$$

Sum of Individual FCI Scores 4.346

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored  $\div 7$

**Composite FCI Score** 0.621



## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		Date of Evaluation: 11/6/2012 Project Name: I-70 EAST EIS	
Site Name or ID:	STORMWATER AAS 279-1+2, 280-1 thru 4, 281-07, 282-01		
404 or Other Permit Application #:	Applicant Name: CDOT		
Evaluator Name(s):	R. McELDANNEY Evaluator's professional position and organization: WETLAND SCIENTIST ATKINS		
<b>Location Information:</b>			
Site Location (Lat./Long. or UTM):	VARIOUS STORMWATER BASINS IN PROJECT AREA		Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83):
USGS Quadrangle Map:	Commerce City, MontBello	Map Scale: (Circle one)	1:24,000 1:100,000 Other 1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):	10190003- MIDDLE SOUTH PLATTE - CHERRY CREEK	Wetland Ownership:	CDOT, PRIVATE
<b>Project Information:</b>			
This evaluation is being performed at: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site (Check applicable box)		Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)	
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation			
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	ac. ac. ac. ac.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	ac. ac. ac. ac.
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:		WETLAND DELINEATION BOUNDARIES, MULTIPLE POLYGONS INCLUDED BECAUSE THEY ARE ALL RELATED TO STORMWATER BASINS AND ARE SUBJECT TO THE SAME STRESSORS.	
Notes:	SITES ARE ARTIFICIALLY CREATED DEPRESSIONAL WETLANDS.		

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

Check all that apply

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?

- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?

- ☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?

- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☐ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

#### Current Conditions

Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.

HGM Setting	Water source	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown		
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical	Bi-directional			
	Wetland Gradient	0 - 2%	2-4%	4-10%	>10%		
	# Surface Inlets	Over-bank	0	1	2	3	>3
	# Surface Outlets		0	1	2	3	>3
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)						
	HGM class	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine		
Historical Conditions							
Previous wetland typology	Water source	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown		
	Hydrodynamics	Unidirectional	Vertical				
	Geomorphic Setting (Narrative Description)						
	Previous HGM Class	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine		

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).

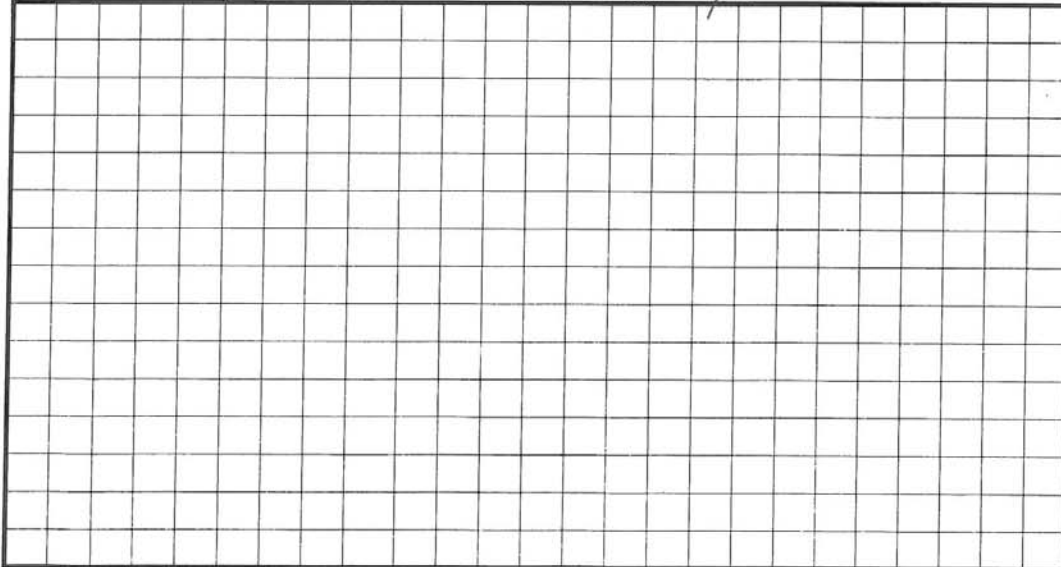
System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
PALUSTRINE	PALUSTRINE	EM	PERSISTENT	B, F	H, X	50
PALUSTRINE	PALUSTRINE	SS	BL DECIDUOUS	B, F	H, X	50
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom (UB) Aquatic Bed (AB) Rocky Shore (RS) Uncon Shore (US) Emergent (EM) Shrub-scrub (SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded (A); Saturated (B); Seasonally flooded (C); Seas.-flood./sat. (E); Semi-Perm. flooded (F); Intermittently exposed (G); Artificially flooded (K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permanent (Z)	Hypersaline (7); Eusaline (8); Mixosaline (9); Fresh (0); Acid (a); Circumneutral (c); Alkaline/calcareous (l); Organic (g); Mineral (n); Beaver (b); Partially Drained/ditched (d); Farmed (f); Diked/impounded (h); Artificial Substrate (r); Spoil (s); Excavated (x)	
Palustrine	Palustrine					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

Scale: 1 sq. =

Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features.

SEE ATTACHED MAPS.



### Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss

This variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetland or riparian habitat the AA has become as a result of the loss of that habitat. To score this variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within a 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This surrounding area is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). Historical photographs and NWI and hydric soils maps can be helpful in scoring this variable. In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment in estimating the amount of natural wetland loss. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change should be used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE. This variable is not meant to penalize AAs that are naturally isolated, or unique to the landscape. Rather, it should measure the degree to which natural habitat connectivity has been lost.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 meter perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research could be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area values to determine the percentage of naturally occurring wetland habitat that remains in the HCE, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below.

Variable Score	Condition Category	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Variable 1 Score

NOT EVALUATED

#### Notes:

BECAUSE THESE WETLANDS ARE NEW, THEY WERE NEVER A COMPONENT OF A HISTORIC WETLAND "NEIGHBORHOODS". CONSEQUENTLY THIS VARIABLE WAS NOT EVALUATED.



## Variable 2: Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline **all** existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	✓	Major Highway	I-70
	✓	Secondary Highway	CITY STREETS, ON/OFF RAMP/IS
		Tertiary Roadway	
		Railroad	
		Bike Path	
	✓	Urban Development	PARKING LOTS, INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
		Ditch or Aqueduct	
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

MOST SITES ARE COMPLETELY ISOLATED.

Variable 2 Score 0.55

### Variable 3: Buffer Capacity

The buffer area is defined as a 250-meter-wide belt surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to function as an effective buffer for the wetland against the deleterious effects of surrounding land use change. To score the variable, assume that the AA is 100% buffered except where land use changes inside the buffer area have diminished this quality. Identify these land use types as specific stressors in the list. For each stressor, rate severity and extent within the buffer area; then use this list to make an overall rating for the buffer's departure from reference conditions. When rating buffer capacity, consider both the intensity of the impact and the proximity of the stressor to the AA.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photograph, delimit the buffer area (BA) as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Use the stressor list to record land use changes that affect buffering capacity within the buffer area. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering all of the identified stressors, their composite severity, extent and proximity to the AA assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	✓	Industrial/commercial	
	✓	Urban	
		Residential	
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	✓	Transportation Corridor	T-700
		Urban Parklands	
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed within the TBA and it provides the full buffering capacity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the BA, but such changes little impair the area's ability to provide a buffering function, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the BA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	BA has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its original buffering capacity. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the BA has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surface; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. While, the buffering capacity of the land has been greatly diminished it is not extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and some cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The area within the BA provides essentially no buffering capacity. Many Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes would rate a score of less than 0.6.

SOME BUFFER CAPACITY, BUT OCCURS WITHIN URBAN SETTING  
NEXT TO A MAJOR TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR.

Variable 3 score

0.6

### Variable 4: Water Source

This variable is concerned with up-gradient hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of the impacts to the AA's water source, including the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. For riverine systems, this variable is primarily concerned with the connection of the channel to the floodplain. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 8.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
X	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	WATER IS ROUTED TO THESE AAs.
	Dams	
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
	Culverts or Constrictions	
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
X	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
X	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	Built for this purpose.
X	Impermeable Surface Runoff	
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

FUNCTIONAL, BUT WATER SOURCE IS ERRATIC AND UNPREDICTABLE.

Variable 4 Score

0.7

## Variable 5: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally **result** from geomorphic modifications. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph within the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Distribution, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control on the wetland's capacity to distribute water in a characteristic fashion and exhibit a natural hydrograph.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Enlarged Channel	
Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
Weirs	
Dikes/Levees/Berms	
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

INTERNAL WATER DISTRIBUTION IS typically NOT AN ISSUE IN THESE AAs, SO WATER

Variable 5 Score

0.7

SOURCE VARIABLE IS THE MAIN DRIVER.



## Variable 6: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with down-gradient hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water (transporting materials and energy) out of the AA. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, and infiltration/groundwater recharge. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. In Variable 5, the stressors were evaluated in light of their impact on water distribution within the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on the AA's ability to export water, energy and associated materials to habitats down-gradient of the AA. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will determine the maximum achievable score for Water Outflow, since the condition of the water source exerts a primary control over the wetland's capacity to export water and associated materials.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Alteration of Water Source	
	Ditches	
	Dikes/Levees	
	Road Grades	
	Culverts	
	Diversions	
	Constrictions	
	Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
	Hardened/Engineered Channel	
	Artificial Stream Banks	
	Weirs	
	Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	Non-functioning	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

THESE AAs ARE SEMI-CLOSED DEPRESSIONS, ONLY ABLE TO HAVE WATER OUTFLOW AT SPECIFIED ELEVATIONS OR AT A CERTAIN PRECIPITATION EVENT LEVEL.

Variable 6 Score

0.7

THE PRIMARY AVENUES FOR WATER OUTFLOW ARE INFILTRATION AND ET.  
THE WATER SOURCE VARIABLE IS MAIN FACTOR CONTROLLING THIS VARIABLE.

## Variable 7: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, diking, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems geomorphic changes to stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA. Alterations may include bed surface changes (embeddedness or morphology changes), stream bank instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alteration can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment, such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, do not include the resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration. The effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which constitute important, but not immediately apparent, impacts.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

	Stressors	Comments
General	Dredging/Excavation/Mining	OCCASIONAL NEED TO REMOVE SEDIMENT
	Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc	
	Grading	
	Compaction	
	Plowing/Disking	
	Excessive Sedimentation	DEPOSITIONAL ENV.
	Dumping	
	Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
	Sand Accumulation	DEPOSITIONAL ENV.
Channels Only	Channel Instability/Over Widening	
	Excessive Bank Erosion	
	Channelization	
	Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	Beaver Dam Removal	
	Substrate Embeddedness	
	Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

NOVEL WETLANDS THAT HAVE SPONTANEOUSLY FORMED. Variable 7  
Score

0.65

## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants and water quality. The origin of pollutants may be in the AA or delivered from up-gradient or surrounding areas. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of many stressors is identified via indirect indicators.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into categories which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each stressor category, determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. Determine the variable score by following the scoring guidelines.

Stressor Category	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock			0.6
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.65
	Excessive Deposition			
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
Toxic contamination/ pH	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			0.6
	Recent Chemical Spills			
	Nearby Industrial Sites	✓		
	Road Drainage/Runoff	✓		
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff	✓		
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
Temperature	Metal staining on rocks and veg.			0.6
	Excessive Temperature Regime	✓		
	Lack of Shading	✓		
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
	Industrial Discharge			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	✓		
Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			0.65
	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance	✓		
	Dumping/introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			

## Variable 8: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each factor score from the stressor list and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.6	+	0.65	+	0.6	+	0.6	+	0.65	=	3.10

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9	or	The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.7 but < 0.8	or	The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7	or	The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6	or	The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 8 Score

0.65



### Variable 9: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It is particularly relevant to the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, although it also affects primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation cover class that would normally be present for the wetland type being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination. Check each present or suspected vegetation layer in the third row of the table.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate the percent coverage of each vegetation layer. Aerial photographs can be helpful for this but are not required. In cases where a stratum has been thinned or removed, enter the expected coverage of that layer **not** the current percent coverage.
4. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
5. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table.
6. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score".
7. Add the "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" and enter the sum in the labeled cell to the right of the individual scores. Follow this same process for the "Percent Cover of Layer".
8. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 9 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

Layers Scored (check boxes to right to indicate scored layers)	Vegetation Layers				Comments
	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	
Noxious Weeds					
Exotic/Invasive spp.			✓		
Tree Harvest					
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal		✓			
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying			✓		
Herbicide					
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization					
Dewatering					
Over Saturation		✓	✓		

Percent Cover of Layer		+	20	+	90	+		=	110
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Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score		x	0.6	x	0.7	x		x		÷	
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See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

Weighted Sub-variable Score		+	12	+	63	+		=	75
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Variable 9 Score

0.68

**Sub-variable 9 Scoring Guidelines:**

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<i>Reference Standard</i>	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<i>Highly Functioning</i>	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<i>Functioning</i>	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<i>Non-functioning</i>	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.

## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

### VARIABLE SCORE TABLE

Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity - Neighboring Wetland Habitat Loss	0.75
	Variable 2:	Habitat Connectivity - Migration/Dispersal Barriers	0.55
	Variable 3:	Buffer Capacity	0.60
Hydrology	Variable 4:	Water Source	0.70
	Variable 5:	Water Distribution	0.70
	Variable 6:	Water Outflow	0.70
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 7:	Geomorphology	0.65
	Variable 8:	Chemical Environment	0.65
	Variable 9:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity	0.68

### Functional Capacity Indices

#### Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat

$$V1_{\text{wetloss}} + V2_{\text{barriers}} + V3_{\text{buffer}} + (2 \times V9_{\text{veg}}) = \frac{\text{Total Functional Points}}{\text{Functional Capacity Index}}$$

N/A + 0.55 + 0.60 + 1.36 + / = 2.51 ÷ 4 = 0.628

#### Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat

$$(3 \times V4_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V8_{\text{chem}} + V7_{\text{geom}} = \frac{\text{Total Functional Points}}{\text{Functional Capacity Index}}$$

2.1 + 1.4 + 1.4 + 0.65 + 0.65 + / = 6.2 ÷ 9 = 0.689

#### Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation

$$V3_{\text{buffer}} + 2 \times V4_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V7_{\text{geom}} + V9_{\text{veg}} = \frac{\text{Total Functional Points}}{\text{Functional Capacity Index}}$$

0.60 + 1.4 + 1.4 + 1.4 + 0.65 + 0.68 + / = 6.13 ÷ 9 = 0.681

#### Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage

$$V4_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V7_{\text{geom}} = \frac{\text{Total Functional Points}}{\text{Functional Capacity Index}}$$

0.70 + 1.4 + 1.4 + 0.65 + / = 4.15 ÷ 6 = 0.692

#### Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal

$$(2 \times V5_{\text{dist}}) + V8_{\text{chem}} + V7_{\text{geom}} = \frac{\text{Total Functional Points}}{\text{Functional Capacity Index}}$$

1.4 + 0.65 + 0.65 + / = 2.7 ÷ 4 = 0.675

#### Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization

$$V3_{\text{buffer}} + (2 \times V7_{\text{geo}}) + (2 \times V9_{\text{veg}}) = \frac{\text{Total Functional Points}}{\text{Functional Capacity Index}}$$

0.60 + 1.30 + 1.36 + / = 3.26 ÷ 5 = 0.652

#### Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support

$$V1_{\text{wetloss}} + 2 \times V6_{\text{outflow}} + V8_{\text{chem}} + V7_{\text{geo}} + (2 \times V9_{\text{veg}}) = \frac{\text{Total Functional Points}}{\text{Functional Capacity Index}}$$

N/A + 1.40 + 0.65 + 0.65 + 1.36 + / = 4.06 ÷ 6 = 0.677

Sum of Individual FCI Scores

4.693

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored

÷ 7

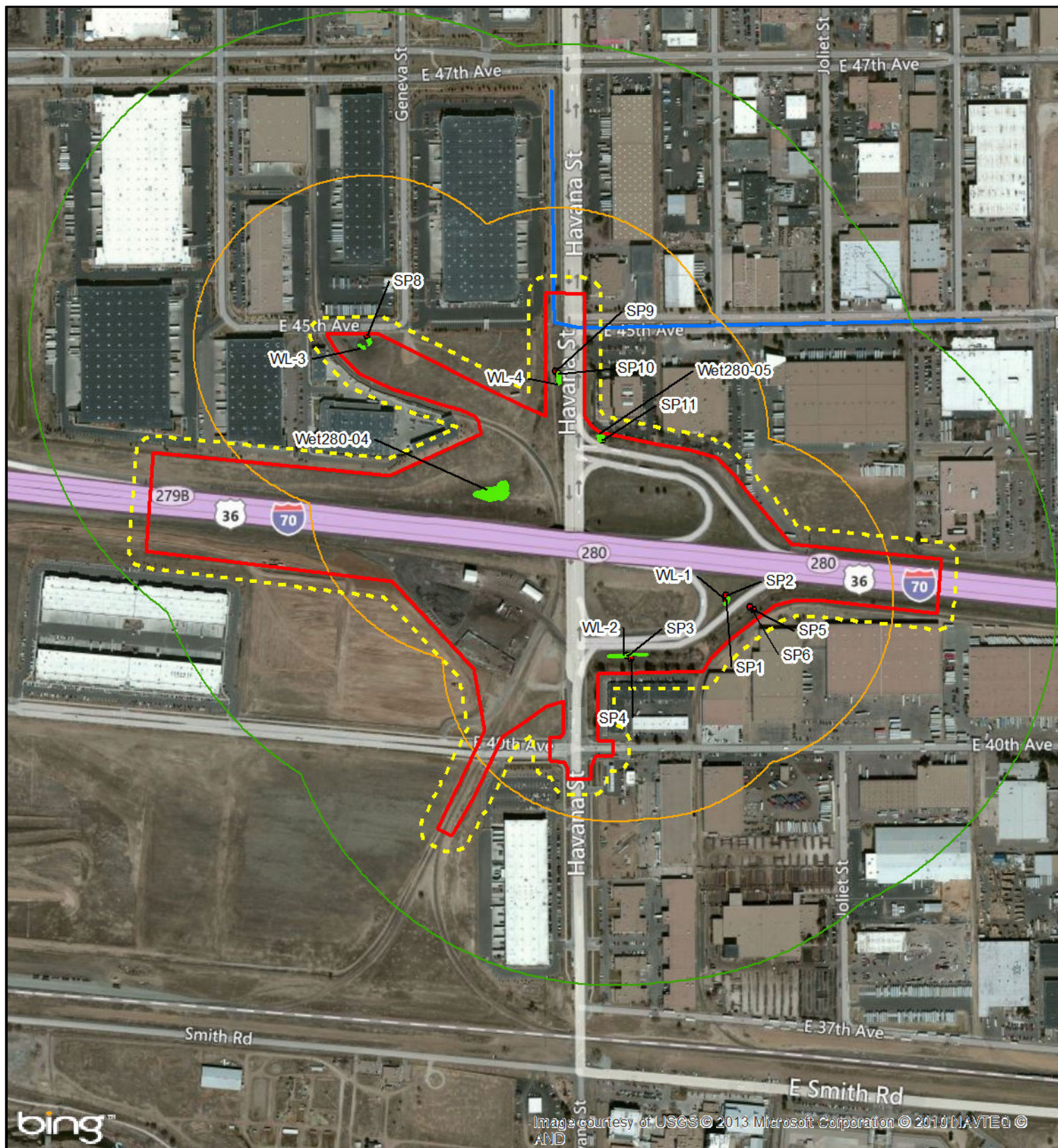
Composite FCI Score

0.670

**Note:** The following FACWet forms were completed for wetlands delineated on April 12, 2013. To be consistent with the previous delineation's numbering structure, different wetland numbers were assigned in the body of this report. The table below reflects how the wetland numbers in the FACWet forms translate to those in the body of the report.

FACWet form Number	Wetland Technical Report Number
WL-1	WET280-08
WL-2	WET280-07
WL-3	Not included in the body of the report; outside of study area
WL-4	WET280-06





## Legend

- Study Limits
- Sampling Point
- Assessment Area (AA)/Wetland
- Unnamed Canal
- Area of Interest (AOI)
- Buffer Area (BA) (250 meters)
- Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE) (500 meters)

0 250 500 750  
Feet

**Pinyon**  
Environmental, Inc.

## FACWet Wetland Area

I-70 Bridge Over Havana Street  
Denver, Colorado

Site Location: Sections 22 and 23, Township 3S, Range 67W, 6th Principal Meridian

Drawn By: MJS

Figure 3

...2013\11367101 I-70 Bridge Over Havana\Figures\ArcMap\MXD\Figure 2 - Study Area.mxd

Job No: 1/13-671-01

Reviewed By: EMW

Revision: 7/12/2013

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		Date of Evaluation: 7/11/2013	
Site Name or ID: WL-1	Project Name: I-70 Bridge over Havana Street		
404 or Other Permit Application #:	Applicant Name: CDOT		
Evaluator Name(s): Elly Weber	Evaluator's professional position and organization: Biologist, Pinyon Environmental		
<b>Location Information:</b>			
Site Coordinates (Decimal Degrees, e.g., 38.85, -104.96):	39.774947°, -104.863140°	Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83):	NAD 83
		Elevation:	5293
Location Information:	Inside interchange of Havana Street and I-70, southeast quadrant		
Associated stream/water body name:	N/A	Stream Order:	N/A
USGS Quadrangle Map: Montbello	Map Scale: (Circle one)	x 1:24,000	1:100,000
		Other	1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC): 10190003	Wetland Ownership:	CDOT	
<b>Project Information:</b>			
This evaluation is being performed at: (Check applicable box)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site	Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)	
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation			
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	0.0119 ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	0.0119 ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	ac. ac. ac. ac.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	ac. ac. ac. ac.
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:	The AA boundary is the boundary of the wetland located wholly within the AOI.		
Notes:	WL-1 is in a low spot in the interchange, east of Havana Street, south of I-70.		



## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

*Check all that apply*

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).

☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.

☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.

☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?

☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?

☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?

☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

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### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☐ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
*If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.*
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

### Current Conditions

*Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.*

HGM Setting	<b>Water source</b>	Surface flow	Groundwater	<u>Precipitation</u>	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	<u>Unidirectional</u>	Vertical	Bi-directional	
	<b>Wetland Gradient</b>	<u>0 - 2%</u>	2-4%	4-10%	>10%
	<b># Surface Inlets</b>	Over-bank	0	<u>1</u>	2    3    >3
	<b># Surface Outlets</b>	<u>0</u>	1	2	3    >3
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	This wetland is a depressional wetland formed in a low spot that collects surface water drainage in the I-70 and Havana interchange.			
	<b>HGM class</b>	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	<b>Water source</b>	<u>Surface flow</u>	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	<u>Unidirectional</u>	Vertical		
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description)	This wetland has presumably not changed since its formation.			
	<b>Previous HGM Class</b>	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):

\_\_\_\_\_

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).

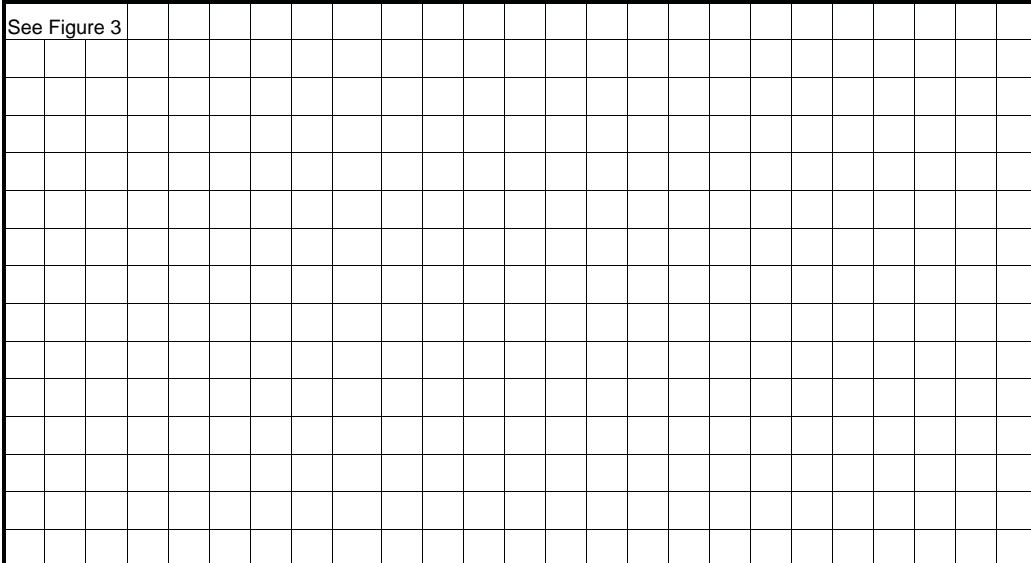
System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
Palustrine	Palustrine	EM	Rooted vascular	E		100
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom(UB) Aquatic Bed(AB) Rocky Shore(RS) Uncon Shore(US) Emergent(EM) Shrub-scrub(SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded(A); Saturated(B); Seasonally flooded(C); Seas.-flood./sat.(E); Semi-Perm. flooded(F); Intermittently exposed(G); Artificially flooded(K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permanent(Z)	Hypersaline(7) ; Eusaline(8); Mixosaline(9); Fresh(0); Acid(a); Circumneutral(c); Alkaline/calcareous(l); Organic(g); Mineral(n); Beaver(b); Partially Drained/ditched(d); Farmed(f); Diked/impounded(h); Artificial Substrate(r); Spoil(s); Excavated(x)	
Palustrine	Palustrine					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features.

Scale: 1 sq. =

See Figure 3





## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity

The Habitat Connectivity Variable is described by two sub-variables – Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss and Barriers to Migration and Dispersal. These sub-variables were treated as independent variables in FACWet Version 2.0. The merging of these variables makes their structure more consistent with that of other composite variables in FACWet. The new variable configuration also makes this landscape variable more accurately reflect the interactions amongst aquatic habitats in Colorado's agricultural and urbanized landscapes, which have a naturally low density of wetlands. The two Habitat Connectivity Sub-variables are scored in exactly the same manner as their FACWet 2.0 counterparts, as described below. The Habitat Connectivity Variable score is simply the arithmetic average of the two sub-variable scores which is entered on the second page of the Variable 1 data form. If there is little or no wetland or riparian habitat in the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (defined below), then Sub-variable 1.1 is not scored.

### SV 1.1 - Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss (Do not score if few or no wetlands naturally exist in the HCE)

This sub-variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetlands or riparian habitat the AA has become as the result of habitat destruction. To score this sub-variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within the 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This zone is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment to estimate the amount of natural wetland loss. Historical photographs, National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, hydric soil maps can be helpful in making these determinations. Floodplain maps are especially valuable in river-dominated regions, such as the Front Range urban corridor. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change is used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 m perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research can be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, soil maps, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area of existing wetland by the total amount of existing and historical wetland and riparian habitat, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below. Enter sub-variable score at the bottom of p.2 of the Habitat Connectivity data form.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Notes:

## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity p. 2

### SV 1.2: Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This sub-variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline **all** existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats, as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Major Highway	I-70
		Secondary Highway	
	x	Tertiary Roadway	Havana Street
	x	Railroad	Railroad spur on the west side of Havana Street, and to the SE
		Bike Path	
	x	Urban Development	Commercial, and light industrial area in Denver Metro Area
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
	x	Ditch or Aqueduct	Concrete-lined ditch in northeast portion of study area
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

SV 1.1 Score

SV 1.2 Score

0.58

Add SV 1.1 and 1.2 scores and divide by two to calculate variable score

Variable 1 Score

0.58

## Variable 2: Contributing Area

The AA's Contributing Area is defined as the 250-meter-wide zone surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to support characteristic functions of high quality wetland habitat. Depending on its condition, the contributing area can help maintain wetland condition or it can degrade it. Contributing Area condition is evaluated by considering the AA's Buffer and its Surrounding Land Use. Buffers are strips or patches of more-or-less natural upland and/or wetland habitat more than 5m wide. Buffers are contiguous with the AA boundary and they intercede between it and more intensively used lands. The AA Buffer is characterized with three sub-variables: Buffer Condition, Buffer Extent, and Average Buffer Width. The Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable considers changes within the Contributing Area that limit its capacity to support characteristic wetland functions. Many of the acute, on-site effects of land use change in the Contributing Area are specifically captured by Variables 3 - 8.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Delimit the Contributing Area on an aerial photograph as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Evaluate and then rate the Buffer Condition sub-variable using the scoring guidelines. Record the score in the cell provided on the datasheet.
3. Indicate on the aerial photograph zones surrounding the AA which have  $\geq 5m$  of buffer vegetation and those which do not.
4. Calculate the percentage of the AA which has a Buffer and record the value where indicated on the data sheet.
5. Rate the *Buffer Extent* Sub-variable using the scoring guidelines.
6. Determine the average Buffer width by drawing a line perpendicularly from the AA boundary to the outer extent of the buffer habitat. Measure line length and record its value on the data sheet. Repeat this process until a total of 8 lines have been sampled.
7. Calculate the average buffer width and record value on the data form. Then determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guidelines.
8. Score the Surrounding Land Use sub-variable by recording land use changes on the stressor list that affect the capacity of the landscape to support characteristic wetland functioning.
9. Enter the **lowest** of the three Buffer sub-variable scores along with the Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable score in the Contributing Area Variable scoring formula at the bottom of p. 2 of the data form. The Contributing Area Variable is the average of the two sub-variable scores.

### SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition

0.57 **SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition Score**

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Condition Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Buffer vegetation is predominately native vegetation, human-caused disturbance of the substrate is not evident, and human visitation is minimal. Common examples: Wilderness areas, undeveloped forest and range lands.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Buffer vegetation may have a mixed native-nonnative composition, but characteristic structure and complexity remain. Soils are mostly undisturbed or have recovered from past human disturbance. Little or only low-impact human visitation. Buffers with higher levels of substrate disturbance may be included here if the buffer is still able to maintain predominately native vegetation. Common examples: Dispersed camping areas in national forests, common in wildland parks (e.g. State Parks) and open spaces.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species. Vegetation structure may be somewhat altered, such as by brush clearing. Moderate substrate disturbance and compaction occurs, and small pockets of greater disturbance may exist. Common examples: City natural areas, mountain hay meadows.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species and vegetation structure has been strongly altered by the complete removal of one or more strata. Soil disturbance and the intensity of human visitation are generally high. Common examples: Open lands around resource extraction sites (e.g., gravel mines), clear cut logging areas, ski slopes.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Buffer is nearly or entirely absent.

### SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent

0.00 Percent of AA with Buffer

0.55 **SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent**

Subvariable Score	Condition Class	% Buffer Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	90 - 100% of AA with Buffer
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	70-90% of AA with Buffer
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	51-69% of AA with Buffer
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	26-50% of AA with Buffer
<0.6	Non-functioning	0-25% of AA with Buffer

## Variable 2: Contributing Area (p. 2)

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width

Record measured buffer widths in the spaces below and average.

Buffer Width (m)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Line #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Avg. Buffer Width (m)

0.1

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width Score

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Width Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Average Buffer width is 190-250m
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Average Buffer width is 101-189m
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Average Buffer width is 31-100m
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Average Buffer width is 6-30m
<0.6	Non-functioning	Average Buffer width is 0-5m

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use

0.5

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use Score

Catalog and characterize land use changes in the surrounding landscape and score.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Industrial/commercial	Hotels, restaurants, light-industrial, including CDOT maintenance facilities
	x	Urban	High Density development in Denver and Commerce City
		Residential	
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	x	Transportation Corridor	Interstate 70 and Havana interchange
		Urban Parklands	
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed Surrounding Landscape.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the Surrounding Landscape, but changes have minimal effect on the the landscape's capacity to support characteristic aquatic functioning, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the area.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Surrounding Landscape has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its capacity to support natural wetland function and it is not an overt source of pollutants or sediment. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the Surrounding Landscape has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surfaces; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. Supportive capacity of the land has been greatly diminished but not totally extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and many cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	The Surrounding Landscape is essentially completely developed or is otherwise a cause of severe ecological stress on wetland habitats. Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes generally rate a score of less than 0.6.

Buffer Score  
(Lowest score)

Surrounding  
Land Use

$$(0.1 + 0.5) \div 2 = \text{Variable 2 Score}$$

0.30



### Variable 3: Water Source

This variable is concerned with **up-gradient** hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of impacts to the AA's water source, including the quantity and timing of water delivery, and the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 7.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
	Dams	
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
	Culverts or Constrictions	
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	
×	Impermeable Surface Runoff	I-70 interchange and surrounding commercial and industrial area
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

Variable 3 Score

0.75

## Variable 4: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally result from geomorphic modifications within the AA. To score this variable, identify stressors within the AA that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph of the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water.

Because the wetland's ability to distribute water in a characteristic fashion is fundamentally dependent on the condition of its water source, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Distribution score**. For example, if the Water Source variable is rated at 0.85, the Water Distribution score will usually have the potential to attain a maximum score of 0.85. Additional stressors within or outside the lower end of the AA effecting water distribution (e.g., ditches and levees) will reduce the score from the maximum value.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
✗ Alteration of Water Source	See variable 3: water source
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Enlarged Channel	
Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
Weirs	
Dikes/Levees/Berms	
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

Variable 4 Score

0.75

## Variable 5: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with **down-gradient** hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water and water-borne materials and energy out of the AA. In particular it illustrates the degree to which the AA can support the functioning of down-gradient habitats. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, infiltration/groundwater recharge, and the energetic characteristics of water delivered to dependent habitats. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on how water, energy and associated materials are exported out of the AA and their ability it support down-gradient habitats in a manner consistent with their HGM (regional) subclass.

Because the wetland's ability to export water and materials in a characteristic fashion is to a very large degree dependent the condition of its water source, as with the Water Distribution variable, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Outflow score.**

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
×	Alteration of Water Source	See variable 3: water source
	Ditches	
	Dikes/Levees	
×	Road Grades	Low area caused by road grades surrounding AA, preventing water outflow
	Culverts	
	Diversions	
	Constrictions	
	Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
	Hardened/Engineered Channel	
	Artificial Stream Banks	
	Weirs	
	Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

Variable 5 Score

0.73

## Variable 6: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, dikes, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems, geomorphic changes to the stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA (i.e., small is size). Alterations may involve the bed and bank (substrate embeddedness or morphological changes), stream instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland surface hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alterations can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, **do not** include these resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration **within the AA** – For example, the width and depth of a ditch or the size of a levee **within the AA** would describe the extent of the stressors. The secondary effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which can be significant but not immediately obvious.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments
	Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
	Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc.	
	Grading	
	Compaction	
	Plowing/Disking	
	Excessive Sedimentation	
	Dumping	
	Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
×	Sand Accumulation	From road grit from interchange of I-70 and Havana
	Channel Instability/Over Widening	
	Excessive Bank Erosion	
	Channelization	
	Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	Beaver Dam Removal	
	Substrate Embeddedness	
	Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

**Variable 6  
Score**

0.8



## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants, water and soil characteristics. The origin of pollutants may be within or outside the AA. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of stressors is often identified by the presence of indirect indicators. Five sub-variables are used to describe the Water and Soil Chemical Environment: Nutrient Enrichment/Eutrophication/Oxygen; Sedimentation/Turbidity; Toxic Contamination/pH; Temperature; and Soil Chemistry and Redox Potential. Utilization of web-based data mining tools is highly recommended to help inform and support variable scores.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into sub-variables which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each sub-variable, determine its score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet. Scoring sub-variables is carried out in exactly the same way as normal variable scoring.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. The lowest sub-variable score sets the letter grade range. The composite of sub-variables influences the score within that range.

Sub-variable	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
SV 7.1 Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock			0.80
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.2 Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.50
	Excessive Deposition	x	Road grit from I-70 & Havana	
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.3 Toxic contamination/ pH	Recent Chemical Spills			0.60
	Nearby Industrial Sites	x	Distribution center uphill to SE	
	Road Drainage/Runoff			
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff			
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.4 Temperature	Excessive Temperature Regime			0.67
	Lack of Shading	x	No trees for shade	
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
	Industrial Discharge			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.5 Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			0.80
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance			
	Dumping/introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment p.2

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each sub-variable score from p. 1 of the V7 data form and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.80	+	0.50	+	0.60	+	0.67	+	0.80	=	3.37

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9		The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9		The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 7.0 but < 0.8		The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7		The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6		The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 7 Score

0.68

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It particularly focuses on the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, and influence primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation, channel stabilization and sediment retention. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the structure, diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation stratum that would normally be present in the HGM (regional) subclass being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition or from the natural range of variability exhibited the HGM subclass or regional subclass. This variable has four sub-variables, each corresponding to a stratum of vegetation: Tree Canopy; Shrub Layer; Herbaceous Layer; and Aquatics.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate and record the current coverage of each vegetation layer at the top of the table.
4. Record the Reference Standard or expected percent coverage of each vegetation layer to create the sub-variable weighting factor. The condition of predominant vegetation layers has a greater influence on the variable score than do minor components.
5. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Reference/expected Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
6. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table. The difference between the expected and observed stratum coverages is one measure of stratum alteration.
7. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score". If a stratum has been wholly removed score it as 0.5.
8. Multiply each layer's *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* score by its Veg. Layer Sub-variable scores and enter the products in the labeled cells. These are the weighted sub-variable scores. Individually sum the *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* and *Weighted Sub-variables scores*.
9. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 8 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

	Vegetation Layers				
Current % Coverage of Layer			x		
Stressor	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	Comments
Noxious Weeds					
Exotic/Invasive spp.					
Tree Harvest					
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal					
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying			x		wetland has been mowed recently
Herbicide					
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization					
Dewatering					
Over Saturation					
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT COVERAGE AND REFERENCE/EXPECTED			0		

Reference/Expected % Cover of Layer		+		+	1.00	+		=	1
	x		x		x		x		
Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score				0.63				÷	
	II		II	II	II				
Weighted Sub-variable Score		+		+	0.63	+		=	0.63

Variable 8 Score

0.63

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity p. 2

### Sub-variable 8 Scoring Guidelines:

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non- functioning	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.



## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted.
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

VARIABLE SCORE TABLE			
Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity (Connect)	0.58
	Variable 2:	Contributing Area (CA)	0.30
Hydrology	Variable 3:	Water Source (Source)	0.75
	Variable 4:	Water Distribution (Dist)	0.75
	Variable 5:	Water Outflow (Outflow)	0.73
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 6:	Geomorphology (Geom)	0.80
	Variable 7:	Chemical Environment (Chem)	0.68
	Variable 8:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity (Veg)	0.63

### Functional Capacity Indices

**Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat**

$$V1_{\text{connect}} + V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.58 + 0.30 + 1.26 = 2.14 \div 4 = 0.54$$

**Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat**

$$(3 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} = 2.25 + 1.50 + 1.46 + 0.80 + 0.68 = 6.69 \div 9 = 0.74$$

**Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation**

$$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V8_{\text{veg}} = 0.30 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 1.46 + 0.80 + 0.63 = 6.19 \div 9 = 0.69$$

**Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage**

$$V3_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} = 0.75 + 1.50 + 1.46 + 0.80 = 4.51 \div 6 = 0.75$$

**Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal**

$$(2 \times V2_{\text{CA}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} = 0.60 + 1.50 + 0.80 + 0.68 = 3.58 \div 6 = 0.60$$

**Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization**

$$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V6_{\text{geom}}) + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.30 + 1.60 + 1.26 = 3.16 \div 5 = 0.63$$

**Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support**

$$V1_{\text{connect}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.58 + 1.46 + 0.80 + 0.68 + 1.26 = 4.78 \div 7 = 0.68$$

Sum of Individual FCI Scores **4.63**

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored  $\div 7$

**Composite FCI Score 0.66**

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		Date of Evaluation: 7/30/2013	
Site Name or ID:	WL-2	Project Name:	I-70 Bridge over Havana Street
404 or Other Permit Application #:		Applicant Name:	CDOT
Evaluator Name(s):	Elly Weber	Evaluator's professional position and organization:	Biologist, Pinyon Environmental
<b>Location Information:</b>			
Site Coordinates (Decimal Degrees, e.g., 38.85, -104.96):	39.774947°, -104.863140°	Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83):	NAD 83
		Elevation	5293
Location Information:	Just outside interchange of Havana Street and I-70, southeast quadrant		
Associated stream/water body name:	N/A	Stream Order:	N/A
USGS Quadrangle Map:	Montbello	Map Scale: (Circle one)	x 1:24,000 1:100,000 Other 1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):	10190003	Wetland Ownership:	CDOT
<b>Project Information:</b>			
This evaluation is being performed at: (Check applicable box)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site	Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction
			<input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation			
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	0.0438 ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	0.0438 ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:	The AA boundary is the boundary of the wetland located wholly within the AOI.		
Notes:	WL-2 is in a roadside ditch, east of Havana Street, south of I-70.		

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

*Check all that apply*

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?
- ☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?
- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☐ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
*If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.*
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

### Current Conditions

*Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.*

HGM Setting	<b>Water source</b>	Surface flow	Groundwater	<u>Precipitation</u>	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	<u>Unidirectional</u>	Vertical	Bi-directional	
	<b>Wetland Gradient</b>	<u>0 - 2%</u>	2-4%	4-10%	>10%
	<b># Surface Inlets</b>	Over-bank	0	<u>1</u>	2    3    >3
	<b># Surface Outlets</b>		0	<u>1</u>	2    3    >3
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	This wetland is a depressional wetland formed in a roadside ditch.			
	<b>HGM class</b>	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	<b>Water source</b>	<u>Surface flow</u>	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	<u>Unidirectional</u>	Vertical		
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description)	This wetland has presumably not changed since its formation.			
	<b>Previous HGM Class</b>	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).

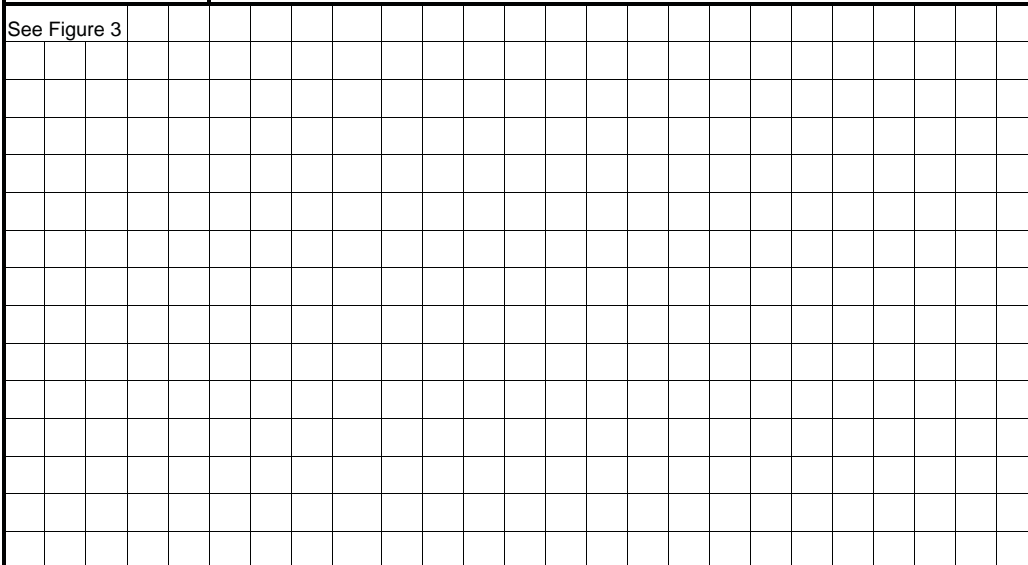
System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
Palustrine	Palustrine	EM	Rooted vascular	E		100
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom(UB) Aquatic Bed(AB) Rocky Shore(RS) Uncon Shore(US) Emergent(EM) Shrub-scrub(SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded(A); Saturated(B); Seasonally flooded(C); Seas.-flood./sat.(E); Semi-Perm. flooded(F); Intermittently exposed(G); Artificially flooded(K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permenant(Z)	Hypersaline(7) ; Eusaline(8); Mixosaline(9); Fresh(0); Acid(a); Circumneutral(c); Alkaline/calcareous(l); Organic(g); Mineral(n); Beaver(b); Partially Drained/ditched(d); Farmed(f); Diked/impounded(h); Artificial Substrate(r); Spoil(s); Excavated(x)	
Palustrine	Palustrine					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features.

Scale: 1 sq. =

See Figure 3





## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity

The Habitat Connectivity Variable is described by two sub-variables – Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss and Barriers to Migration and Dispersal. These sub-variables were treated as independent variables in FACWet Version 2.0. The merging of these variables makes their structure more consistent with that of other composite variables in FACWet. The new variable configuration also makes this landscape variable more accurately reflect the interactions amongst aquatic habitats in Colorado's agricultural and urbanized landscapes, which have a naturally low density of wetlands. The two Habitat Connectivity Sub-variables are scored in exactly the same manner as their FACWet 2.0 counterparts, as described below. The Habitat Connectivity Variable score is simply the arithmetic average of the two sub-variable scores which is entered on the second page of the Variable 1 data form. If there is little or no wetland or riparian habitat in the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (defined below), then Sub-variable 1.1 is not scored.

### SV 1.1 - Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss (Do not score if few or no wetlands naturally exist in the HCE)

This sub-variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetlands or riparian habitat the AA has become as the result of habitat destruction. To score this sub-variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within the 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This zone is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment to estimate the amount of natural wetland loss. Historical photographs, National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, hydric soil maps can be helpful in making these determinations. Floodplain maps are especially valuable in river-dominated regions, such as the Front Range urban corridor. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change is used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 m perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research can be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, soil maps, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area of existing wetland by the total amount of existing and historical wetland and riparian habitat, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below. Enter sub-variable score at the bottom of p.2 of the Habitat Connectivity data form.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Notes:

## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity p. 2

### SV 1.2: Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This sub-variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline **all** existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats, as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Major Highway	I-70
		Secondary Highway	
	x	Tertiary Roadway	Havana Street
	x	Railroad	Railroad spur on the west side of Havana Street, and to the SE
		Bike Path	
	x	Urban Development	Commercial, and light industrial area in Denver Metro Area
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
	x	Ditch or Aqueduct	Concrete-lined ditch in northeast portion of study area
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

SV 1.1 Score	
SV 1.2 Score	0.58

Add SV 1.1 and 1.2 scores and divide by two to calculate variable score

**Variable 1 Score**

0.58

## Variable 2: Contributing Area

The AA's Contributing Area is defined as the 250-meter-wide zone surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to support characteristic functions of high quality wetland habitat. Depending on its condition, the contributing area can help maintain wetland condition or it can degrade it. Contributing Area condition is evaluated by considering the AA's Buffer and its Surrounding Land Use. Buffers are strips or patches of more-or-less natural upland and/or wetland habitat more than 5m wide. Buffers are contiguous with the AA boundary and they intercede between it and more intensively used lands. The AA Buffer is characterized with three sub-variables: Buffer Condition, Buffer Extent, and Average Buffer Width. The Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable considers changes within the Contributing Area that limit its capacity to support characteristic wetland functions. Many of the acute, on-site effects of land use change in the Contributing Area are specifically captured by Variables 3 - 8.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Delimit the Contributing Area on an aerial photograph as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Evaluate and then rate the Buffer Condition sub-variable using the scoring guidelines. Record the score in the cell provided on the datasheet.
3. Indicate on the aerial photograph zones surrounding the AA which have  $\geq 5m$  of buffer vegetation and those which do not.
4. Calculate the percentage of the AA which has a Buffer and record the value where indicated on the data sheet.
5. Rate the *Buffer Extent* Sub-variable using the scoring guidelines.
6. Determine the average Buffer width by drawing a line perpendicularly from the AA boundary to the outer extent of the buffer habitat. Measure line length and record its value on the data sheet. Repeat this process until a total of 8 lines have been sampled.
7. Calculate the average buffer width and record value on the data form. Then determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guidelines.
8. Score the Surrounding Land Use sub-variable by recording land use changes on the stressor list that affect the capacity of the landscape to support characteristic wetland functioning.
9. Enter the **lowest** of the three Buffer sub-variable scores along with the Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable score in the Contributing Area Variable scoring formula at the bottom of p. 2 of the data form. The Contributing Area Variable is the average of the two sub-variable scores.

### SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition

0.57 **SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition Score**

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Condition Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Buffer vegetation is predominately native vegetation, human-caused disturbance of the substrate is not evident, and human visitation is minimal. Common examples: Wilderness areas, undeveloped forest and range lands.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Buffer vegetation may have a mixed native-nonnative composition, but characteristic structure and complexity remain. Soils are mostly undisturbed or have recovered from past human disturbance. Little or only low-impact human visitation. Buffers with higher levels of substrate disturbance may be included here if the buffer is still able to maintain predominately native vegetation. Common examples: Dispersed camping areas in national forests, common in wildland parks (e.g. State Parks) and open spaces.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species. Vegetation structure may be somewhat altered, such as by brush clearing. Moderate substrate disturbance and compaction occurs, and small pockets of greater disturbance may exist. Common examples: City natural areas, mountain hay meadows.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species and vegetation structure has been strongly altered by the complete removal of one or more strata. Soil disturbance and the intensity of human visitation are generally high. Common examples: Open lands around resource extraction sites (e.g., gravel mines), clear cut logging areas, ski slopes.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Buffer is nearly or entirely absent.

### SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent

0.00 Percent of AA with Buffer

0.55 **SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent**

Subvariable Score	Condition Class	% Buffer Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	90 - 100% of AA with Buffer
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	70-90% of AA with Buffer
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	51-69% of AA with Buffer
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	26-50% of AA with Buffer
<0.6	Non-functioning	0-25% of AA with Buffer

## Variable 2: Contributing Area (p. 2)

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width

Record measured buffer widths in the spaces below and average.

Buffer Width (m)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Line #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Avg. Buffer Width (m)

0.1

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width Score

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Width Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Average Buffer width is 190-250m
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Average Buffer width is 101-189m
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Average Buffer width is 31-100m
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Average Buffer width is 6-30m
<0.6	Non-functioning	Average Buffer width is 0-5m

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use

0.5

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use Score

Catalog and characterize land use changes in the surrounding landscape and score.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Industrial/commercial	Hotels, restaurants, light-industrial, including CDOT maintenance facilities
	x	Urban	High Density development in Denver and Commerce City
		Residential	
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	x	Transportation Corridor	Interstate 70 and Havana interchange
		Urban Parklands	
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed Surrounding Landscape.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the Surrounding Landscape, but changes have minimal effect on the the landscape's capacity to support characteristic aquatic functioning, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the area.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Surrounding Landscape has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its capacity to support natural wetland function and it is not an overt source of pollutants or sediment. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the Surrounding Landscape has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surfaces; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. Supportive capacity of the land has been greatly diminished but not totally extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and many cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	The Surrounding Landscape is essentially completely developed or is otherwise a cause of severe ecological stress on wetland habitats. Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes generally rate a score of less than 0.6.

Buffer Score  
(Lowest score)

Surrounding  
Land Use

$$(0.1 + 0.5) \div 2 = \text{Variable 2 Score}$$

0.30

### Variable 3: Water Source

This variable is concerned with **up-gradient** hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of impacts to the AA's water source, including the quantity and timing of water delivery, and the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 7.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
	Dams	
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
×	Culverts or Constrictions	Culvert flowing from unknown source contributes to hydrology.
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	
×	Impermeable Surface Runoff	I-70 interchange and surrounding commercial and industrial area
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

Variable 3 Score

0.75



## Variable 4: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally result from geomorphic modifications within the AA. To score this variable, identify stressors within the AA that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph of the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water.

Because the wetland's ability to distribute water in a characteristic fashion is fundamentally dependent on the condition of its water source, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Distribution score**. For example, if the Water Source variable is rated at 0.85, the Water Distribution score will usually have the potential to attain a maximum score of 0.85. Additional stressors within or outside the lower end of the AA effecting water distribution (e.g., ditches and levees) will reduce the score from the maximum value.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
✗ Alteration of Water Source	See variable 3: water source
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Enlarged Channel	
Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
Weirs	
Dikes/Levees/Berms	
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

Variable 4 Score

0.75

## Variable 5: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with **down-gradient** hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water and water-borne materials and energy out of the AA. In particular it illustrates the degree to which the AA can support the functioning of down-gradient habitats. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, infiltration/groundwater recharge, and the energetic characteristics of water delivered to dependent habitats. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on how water, energy and associated materials are exported out of the AA and their ability to support down-gradient habitats in a manner consistent with their HGM (regional) subclass.

Because the wetland's ability to export water and materials in a characteristic fashion is to a very large degree dependent the condition of its water source, as with the Water Distribution variable, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Outflow score.**

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
✗	Alteration of Water Source	See variable 3: water source
	Ditches	
	Dikes/Levees	
	Road Grades	
	Culverts	
	Diversions	
	Constrictions	
	Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
	Hardened/Engineered Channel	
	Artificial Stream Banks	
	Weirs	
	Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> <i>Reference Standard</i>	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> <i>Highly Functioning</i>	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> <i>Functioning</i>	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> <i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	<b>F</b> <i>Non-functioning</i>	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

Variable 5 Score

0.75

## Variable 6: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, dikes, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems, geomorphic changes to the stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA (i.e., small is size). Alterations may involve the bed and bank (substrate embeddedness or morphological changes), stream instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland surface hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alterations can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, **do not** include these resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration **within the AA** – For example, the width and depth of a ditch or the size of a levee **within the AA** would describe the extent of the stressors. The secondary effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which can be significant but not immediately obvious.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments
	Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
	Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc.	
	Grading	
	Compaction	
	Plowing/Disking	
	Excessive Sedimentation	
	Dumping	
	Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
	Sand Accumulation	
	Channel Instability/Over Widening	
	Excessive Bank Erosion	
	Channelization	
	Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	Beaver Dam Removal	
	Substrate Embeddedness	
	Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non- functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

**Variable 6  
Score**

0.85

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants, water and soil characteristics. The origin of pollutants may be within or outside the AA. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of stressors is often identified by the presence of indirect indicators. Five sub-variables are used to describe the Water and Soil Chemical Environment: Nutrient Enrichment/Eutrophication/Oxygen; Sedimentation/Turbidity; Toxic Contamination/pH; Temperature; and Soil Chemistry and Redox Potential. Utilization of web-based data mining tools is highly recommended to help inform and support variable scores.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into sub-variables which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each sub-variable, determine its score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet. Scoring sub-variables is carried out in exactly the same way as normal variable scoring.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. The lowest sub-variable score sets the letter grade range. The composite of sub-variables influences the score within that range.

Sub-variable	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
SV 7.1 Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock			0.80
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.2 Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.80
	Excessive Deposition			
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.3 Toxic contamination/ pH	Recent Chemical Spills			0.60
	Nearby Industrial Sites	x	Distribution center uphill to SE	
	Road Drainage/Runoff			
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff			
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.4 Temperature	Excessive Temperature Regime			0.80
	Lack of Shading			
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
	Industrial Discharge			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.5 Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			0.80
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance			
	Dumping/introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment p.2

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each sub-variable score from p. 1 of the V7 data form and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.80	+	0.80	+	0.60	+	0.80	+	0.80	=	3.80

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9		The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9		The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 7.0 but < 0.8		The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7		The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6		The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 7 Score

0.78



## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It particularly focuses on the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, and influence primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation, channel stabilization and sediment retention. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the structure, diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation stratum that would normally be present in the HGM (regional) subclass being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition or from the natural range of variability exhibited the HGM subclass or regional subclass. This variable has four sub-variables, each corresponding to a stratum of vegetation: Tree Canopy; Shrub Layer; Herbaceous Layer; and Aquatics.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate and record the current coverage of each vegetation layer at the top of the table.
4. Record the Reference Standard or expected percent coverage of each vegetation layer to create the sub-variable weighting factor. The condition of predominant vegetation layers has a greater influence on the variable score than do minor components.
5. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Reference/expected Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
6. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table. The difference between the expected and observed stratum coverages is one measure of stratum alteration.
7. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score". If a stratum has been wholly removed score it as 0.5.
8. Multiply each layer's *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* score by its Veg. Layer Sub-variable scores and enter the products in the labeled cells. These are the weighted sub-variable scores. Individually sum the *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* and *Weighted Sub-variables scores*.
9. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 8 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

Current % Coverage of Layer	Vegetation Layers				Comments
	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	
Stressor					
Noxious Weeds					
Exotic/Invasive spp.					
Tree Harvest					
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal					
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying					
Herbicide					
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization					
Dewatering					
Over Saturation					
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT COVERAGE AND REFERENCE/EXPECTED			0		

Reference/Expected % Cover of Layer		+	0.40	+	1.00	+		=	1.4
	x		x		x		x		
Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score			0.8		0.8				
	II		II		II		II		
Weighted Sub-variable Score		+	0.32	+	0.80	+		=	1.12

0.80

**Variable 8 Score**

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity p. 2

### Sub-variable 8 Scoring Guidelines:

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non- functioning	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.

## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted.
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

VARIABLE SCORE TABLE			
Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity (Connect)	0.58
	Variable 2:	Contributing Area (CA)	0.30
Hydrology	Variable 3:	Water Source (Source)	0.75
	Variable 4:	Water Distribution (Dist)	0.75
	Variable 5:	Water Outflow (Outflow)	0.75
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 6:	Geomorphology (Geom)	0.85
	Variable 7:	Chemical Environment (Chem)	0.78
	Variable 8:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity (Veg)	0.80

### Functional Capacity Indices

**Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat**

$$V1_{\text{connect}} + V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.58 + 0.30 + 1.60 = 2.48 \div 4 = 0.62$$

**Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat**

$$(3 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} = 2.25 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 0.85 + 0.78 = 6.88 \div 9 = 0.76$$

**Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation**

$$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V8_{\text{veg}} = 0.30 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 0.85 + 0.80 = 6.45 \div 9 = 0.72$$

**Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage**

$$V3_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} = 0.75 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 0.85 = 4.60 \div 6 = 0.77$$

**Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal**

$$(2 \times V2_{\text{CA}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} = 0.60 + 1.50 + 0.85 + 0.78 = 3.73 \div 6 = 0.62$$

**Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization**

$$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V6_{\text{geom}}) + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.30 + 1.70 + 1.60 = 3.60 \div 5 = 0.72$$

**Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support**

$$V1_{\text{connect}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.58 + 1.50 + 0.85 + 0.78 + 1.60 = 5.31 \div 7 = 0.76$$

Sum of Individual FCI Scores **4.97**

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored  $\div 7$

**Composite FCI Score 0.71**

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		Date of Evaluation: 7/30/2013	
Site Name or ID:	WL-3	Project Name:	I-70 Bridge over Havana Street
404 or Other Permit Application #:		Applicant Name:	CDOT
Evaluator Name(s):	Elly Weber	Evaluator's professional position and organization:	Biologist, Pinyon Environmental

<b>Location Information:</b>	
Site Coordinates (Decimal Degrees, e.g., 38.85, -104.96):	39.774947°, -104.863140°
Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83):	NAD 83
Elevation	5293
Location Information: Northwest quadrant of I-70 and Havana Interchange, in storm water stormwater basin, south of East	
Associated stream/water body name:	N/A
Stream Order:	N/A
USGS Quadrangle Map:	Montbello
Map Scale: (Circle one)	x 1:24,000 1:100,000 Other 1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):	10190003
Wetland Ownership:	CDOT

<b>Project Information:</b>								
This evaluation is being performed at: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site (Check applicable box)	Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)							
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation								
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	0.0164 ac. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated							
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	0.0164 ac. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated							
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>ac. 0.0087</td> <td>ac. 0.0078</td> <td>ac.</td> <td>ac.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ac.</td> <td>ac.</td> <td>ac.</td> <td>ac.</td> </tr> </table>	ac. 0.0087	ac. 0.0078	ac.	ac.	ac.	ac.	ac.
ac. 0.0087	ac. 0.0078	ac.	ac.					
ac.	ac.	ac.	ac.					
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:	The AA boundary is the boundary of the wetland located wholly within the AOI.							
Notes:	WL- 3 is located in the far northwest portion of the study area, in a stormwater basin with riprap-lined trickle channels.							

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

*Check all that apply*

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?
- ☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?
- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☐ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
*If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.*
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

### Current Conditions

*Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.*

HGM Setting	<b>Water source</b>	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown		
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	Unidirectional	Vertical	Bi-directional			
	<b>Wetland Gradient</b>	0 - 2%	2-4%	4-10%	>10%		
	<b># Surface Inlets</b>	Over-bank	0	1	2	3	>3
	<b># Surface Outlets</b>		0	1	2	3	>3
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	This wetland is a depressional wetland formed in stormwater basin, in and adjacent to riprap-lined trickle channel.					
	<b>HGM class</b>	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine		

### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	<b>Water source</b>	<u>Surface flow</u>	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	<u>Unidirectional</u>	Vertical		
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description)	This wetland has presumably not changed since its formation.			
	<b>Previous HGM Class</b>	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):



## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).

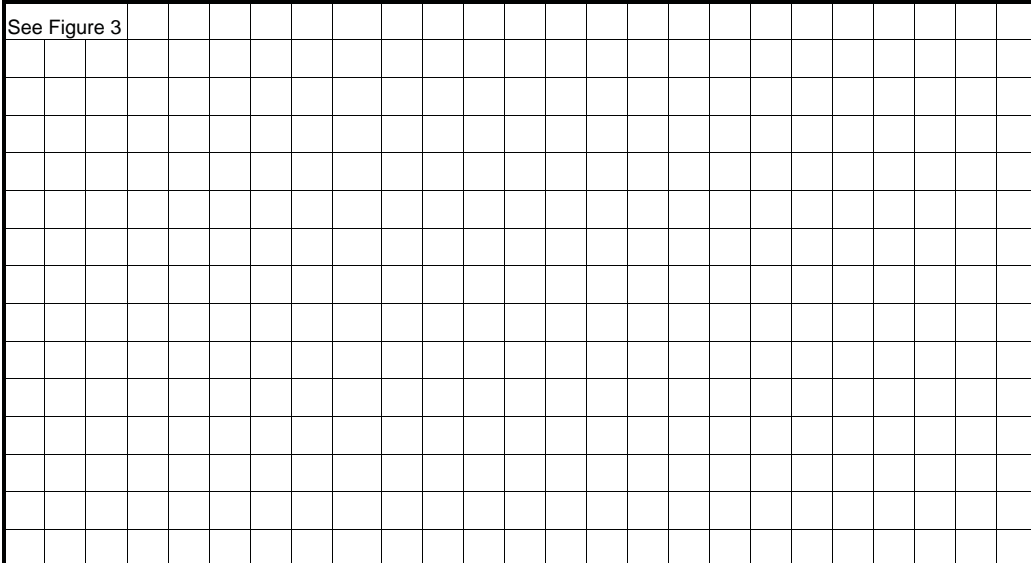
System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
Palustrine	Palustrine	EM	Rooted vascular	E		100
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom(UB) Aquatic Bed(AB) Rocky Shore(RS) Uncon Shore(US) Emergent(EM) Shrub-scrub(SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded(A); Saturated(B); Seasonally flooded(C); Seas.-flood./sat.(E); Semi-Perm. flooded(F); Intermittently exposed(G); Artificially flooded(K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permanent(Z)	Hypersaline(7) ; Eusaline(8); Mixosaline(9); Fresh(0); Acid(a); Circumneutral(c); Alkaline/calcareous(l); Organic(g); Mineral(n); Beaver(b); Partially Drained/ditched(d); Farmed(f); Diked/impounded(h); Artificial Substrate(r); Spoil(s); Excavated(x)	
Palustrine	Palustrine					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features.

Scale: 1 sq. =

See Figure 3



## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity

The Habitat Connectivity Variable is described by two sub-variables – Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss and Barriers to Migration and Dispersal. These sub-variables were treated as independent variables in FACWet Version 2.0. The merging of these variables makes their structure more consistent with that of other composite variables in FACWet. The new variable configuration also makes this landscape variable more accurately reflect the interactions amongst aquatic habitats in Colorado's agricultural and urbanized landscapes, which have a naturally low density of wetlands. The two Habitat Connectivity Sub-variables are scored in exactly the same manner as their FACWet 2.0 counterparts, as described below. The Habitat Connectivity Variable score is simply the arithmetic average of the two sub-variable scores which is entered on the second page of the Variable 1 data form. If there is little or no wetland or riparian habitat in the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (defined below), then Sub-variable 1.1 is not scored.

### SV 1.1 - Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss (Do not score if few or no wetlands naturally exist in the HCE)

This sub-variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetlands or riparian habitat the AA has become as the result of habitat destruction. To score this sub-variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within the 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This zone is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment to estimate the amount of natural wetland loss. Historical photographs, National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, hydric soil maps can be helpful in making these determinations. Floodplain maps are especially valuable in river-dominated regions, such as the Front Range urban corridor. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change is used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 m perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research can be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, soil maps, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area of existing wetland by the total amount of existing and historical wetland and riparian habitat, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below. Enter sub-variable score at the bottom of p.2 of the Habitat Connectivity data form.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Notes:

## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity p. 2

### SV 1.2: Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This sub-variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline **all** existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats, as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Major Highway	I-70
		Secondary Highway	
	x	Tertiary Roadway	Havana Street
	x	Railroad	Railroad spur on the west side of Havana Street, and to the SE
		Bike Path	
	x	Urban Development	Commercial, and light industrial area in Denver Metro Area
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
	x	Ditch or Aqueduct	Concrete-lined ditch in northeast portion of study area
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

SV 1.1 Score

SV 1.2 Score

0.58

Add SV 1.1 and 1.2 scores and divide by two to calculate variable score

Variable 1 Score

0.58

## Variable 2: Contributing Area

The AA's Contributing Area is defined as the 250-meter-wide zone surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to support characteristic functions of high quality wetland habitat. Depending on its condition, the contributing area can help maintain wetland condition or it can degrade it. Contributing Area condition is evaluated by considering the AA's Buffer and its Surrounding Land Use. Buffers are strips or patches of more-or-less natural upland and/or wetland habitat more than 5m wide. Buffers are contiguous with the AA boundary and they intercede between it and more intensively used lands. The AA Buffer is characterized with three sub-variables: Buffer Condition, Buffer Extent, and Average Buffer Width. The Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable considers changes within the Contributing Area that limit its capacity to support characteristic wetland functions. Many of the acute, on-site effects of land use change in the Contributing Area are specifically captured by Variables 3 - 8.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Delimit the Contributing Area on an aerial photograph as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Evaluate and then rate the Buffer Condition sub-variable using the scoring guidelines. Record the score in the cell provided on the datasheet.
3. Indicate on the aerial photograph zones surrounding the AA which have  $\geq 5m$  of buffer vegetation and those which do not.
4. Calculate the percentage of the AA which has a Buffer and record the value where indicated on the data sheet.
5. Rate the *Buffer Extent* Sub-variable using the scoring guidelines.
6. Determine the average Buffer width by drawing a line perpendicularly from the AA boundary to the outer extent of the buffer habitat. Measure line length and record its value on the data sheet. Repeat this process until a total of 8 lines have been sampled.
7. Calculate the average buffer width and record value on the data form. Then determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guidelines.
8. Score the Surrounding Land Use sub-variable by recording land use changes on the stressor list that affect the capacity of the landscape to support characteristic wetland functioning.
9. Enter the **lowest** of the three Buffer sub-variable scores along with the Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable score in the Contributing Area Variable scoring formula at the bottom of p. 2 of the data form. The Contributing Area Variable is the average of the two sub-variable scores.

### SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition

0.57 **SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition Score**

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Condition Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Buffer vegetation is predominately native vegetation, human-caused disturbance of the substrate is not evident, and human visitation is minimal. Common examples: Wilderness areas, undeveloped forest and range lands.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Buffer vegetation may have a mixed native-nonnative composition, but characteristic structure and complexity remain. Soils are mostly undisturbed or have recovered from past human disturbance. Little or only low-impact human visitation. Buffers with higher levels of substrate disturbance may be included here if the buffer is still able to maintain predominately native vegetation. Common examples: Dispersed camping areas in national forests, common in wildland parks (e.g. State Parks) and open spaces.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species. Vegetation structure may be somewhat altered, such as by brush clearing. Moderate substrate disturbance and compaction occurs, and small pockets of greater disturbance may exist. Common examples: City natural areas, mountain hay meadows.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species and vegetation structure has been strongly altered by the complete removal of one or more strata. Soil disturbance and the intensity of human visitation are generally high. Common examples: Open lands around resource extraction sites (e.g., gravel mines), clear cut logging areas, ski slopes.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Buffer is nearly or entirely absent.

### SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent

0.00 Percent of AA with Buffer

0.55 **SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent**

Subvariable Score	Condition Class	% Buffer Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	90 - 100% of AA with Buffer
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	70-90% of AA with Buffer
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	51-69% of AA with Buffer
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	26-50% of AA with Buffer
<0.6	Non-functioning	0-25% of AA with Buffer

## Variable 2: Contributing Area (p. 2)

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width

Record measured buffer widths in the spaces below and average.

Buffer Width (m)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Line #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Avg. Buffer Width (m)

0.1

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width Score

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Width Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Average Buffer width is 190-250m
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Average Buffer width is 101-189m
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Average Buffer width is 31-100m
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Average Buffer width is 6-30m
<0.6	Non-functioning	Average Buffer width is 0-5m

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use

0.5

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use Score

Catalog and characterize land use changes in the surrounding landscape and score.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Industrial/commercial	Hotels, restaurants, light-industrial, including CDOT maintenance facilities
	x	Urban	High Density development in Denver and Commerce City
		Residential	
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	x	Transportation Corridor	Interstate 70 and Havana interchange
		Urban Parklands	
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed Surrounding Landscape.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the Surrounding Landscape, but changes have minimal effect on the the landscape's capacity to support characteristic aquatic functioning, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the area.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Surrounding Landscape has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its capacity to support natural wetland function and it is not an overt source of pollutants or sediment. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the Surrounding Landscape has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surfaces; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. Supportive capacity of the land has been greatly diminished but not totally extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and many cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	The Surrounding Landscape is essentially completely developed or is otherwise a cause of severe ecological stress on wetland habitats. Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes generally rate a score of less than 0.6.

Buffer Score  
(Lowest score)

Surrounding  
Land Use

$$(0.1 + 0.5) \div 2 = \text{Variable 2 Score} \quad 0.30$$



### Variable 3: Water Source

This variable is concerned with **up-gradient** hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of impacts to the AA's water source, including the quantity and timing of water delivery, and the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 7.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
	Dams	
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
	Culverts or Constrictions	
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
×	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	Storm drains in vicinity flow directly to this stormwater basin.
×	Impermeable Surface Runoff	I-70 interchange and surrounding commercial and industrial area
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

Variable 3 Score

0.7

## Variable 4: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally result from geomorphic modifications within the AA. To score this variable, identify stressors within the AA that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph of the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water.

Because the wetland's ability to distribute water in a characteristic fashion is fundamentally dependent on the condition of its water source, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Distribution score**. For example, if the Water Source variable is rated at 0.85, the Water Distribution score will usually have the potential to attain a maximum score of 0.85. Additional stressors within or outside the lower end of the AA effecting water distribution (e.g., ditches and levees) will reduce the score from the maximum value.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
✗	Alteration of Water Source	See variable 3: water source
	Ditches	
	Ponding/Impoundment	
	Culverts	
	Road Grades	
	Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
	Hardened/Engineered Channel	
	Enlarged Channel	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	Weirs	
	Dikes/Levees/Berms	
	Diversions	
	Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

Variable 4 Score

0.7

### Variable 5: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with **down-gradient** hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water and water-borne materials and energy out of the AA. In particular it illustrates the degree to which the AA can support the functioning of down-gradient habitats. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, infiltration/groundwater recharge, and the energetic characteristics of water delivered to dependent habitats. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on how water, energy and associated materials are exported out of the AA and their ability it support down-gradient habitats in a manner consistent with their HGM (regional) subclass.

Because the wetland's ability to export water and materials in a characteristic fashion is to a very large degree dependent the condition of its water source, as with the Water Distribution variable, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Outflow score**.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
✗	Alteration of Water Source	see variable 3: water source
	Ditches	
	Dikes/Levees	
	Road Grades	
✗	Culverts	Trickle channels flow into culvert, which is outlet.
	Diversions	
	Constrictions	
	Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
	Hardened/Engineered Channel	
	Artificial Stream Banks	
	Weirs	
	Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> <i>Reference Standard</i>	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> <i>Highly Functioning</i>	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> <i>Functioning</i>	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> <i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	<b>F</b> <i>Non-functioning</i>	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

Variable 5 Score

0.7

## Variable 6: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, dikes, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems, geomorphic changes to the stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA (i.e., small is size). Alterations may involve the bed and bank (substrate embeddedness or morphological changes), stream instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland surface hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alterations can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, **do not** include these resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration **within the AA** – For example, the width and depth of a ditch or the size of a levee **within the AA** would describe the extent of the stressors. The secondary effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which can be significant but not immediately obvious.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments
	Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
	Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc.	
	Grading	
	Compaction	
	Plowing/Disking	
	Excessive Sedimentation	
	Dumping	
	Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
	Sand Accumulation	
	Channel Instability/Over Widening	
	Excessive Bank Erosion	
	Channelization	
	Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	Beaver Dam Removal	
	Substrate Embeddedness	
	Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non- functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

**Variable 6  
Score**

0.8

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants, water and soil characteristics. The origin of pollutants may be within or outside the AA. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of stressors is often identified by the presence of indirect indicators. Five sub-variables are used to describe the Water and Soil Chemical Environment: Nutrient Enrichment/Eutrophication/Oxygen; Sedimentation/Turbidity; Toxic Contamination/pH; Temperature; and Soil Chemistry and Redox Potential. Utilization of web-based data mining tools is highly recommended to help inform and support variable scores.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into sub-variables which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each sub-variable, determine its score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet. Scoring sub-variables is carried out in exactly the same way as normal variable scoring.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. The lowest sub-variable score sets the letter grade range. The composite of sub-variables influences the score within that range.

Sub-variable	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
SV 7.1 Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock			0.80
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.2 Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.50
	Excessive Deposition	x	Stormwater basin designed to trap sediment	
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.3 Toxic contamination/ pH	Recent Chemical Spills			0.63
	Nearby Industrial Sites	x	Warehouses etc. to north and west	
	Road Drainage/Runoff			
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff			
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.4 Temperature	Excessive Temperature Regime			0.67
	Lack of Shading	x	No trees for shade	
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
	Industrial Discharge			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.5 Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			0.80
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance			
	Dumping/introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			



## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment p.2

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each sub-variable score from p. 1 of the V7 data form and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.80	+	0.50	+	0.63	+	0.67	+	0.80	=	3.40

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9		The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9		The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 7.0 but < 0.8		The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7		The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6		The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 7 Score

0.68

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It particularly focuses on the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, and influence primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation, channel stabilization and sediment retention. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the structure, diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation stratum that would normally be present in the HGM (regional) subclass being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition or from the natural range of variability exhibited the HGM subclass or regional subclass. This variable has four sub-variables, each corresponding to a stratum of vegetation: Tree Canopy; Shrub Layer; Herbaceous Layer; and Aquatics.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate and record the current coverage of each vegetation layer at the top of the table.
4. Record the Reference Standard or expected percent coverage of each vegetation layer to create the sub-variable weighting factor. The condition of predominant vegetation layers has a greater influence on the variable score than do minor components.
5. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Reference/expected Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
6. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table. The difference between the expected and observed stratum coverages is one measure of stratum alteration.
7. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score". If a stratum has been wholly removed score it as 0.5.
8. Multiply each layer's *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* score by its Veg. Layer Sub-variable scores and enter the products in the labeled cells. These are the weighted sub-variable scores. Individually sum the *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* and *Weighted Sub-variables scores*.
9. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 8 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

	Vegetation Layers				
Current % Coverage of Layer			x		
Stressor	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	Comments
Noxious Weeds					
Exotic/Invasive spp.					
Tree Harvest					
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal					
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying					
Herbicide					
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization					
Dewatering					
Over Saturation					
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT COVERAGE AND REFERENCE/EXPECTED			0		

Reference/Expected % Cover of Layer		+		+	1.00	+		=	1
	x		x		x		x		
Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score				0.8				÷	
	II		II	II			II		
Weighted Sub-variable Score		+		+	0.80	+		=	0.8

0.80

**Variable 8 Score**

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity p. 2

### Sub-variable 8 Scoring Guidelines:

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non- functioning	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.

## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted.
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

VARIABLE SCORE TABLE			
Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity (Connect)	0.58
	Variable 2:	Contributing Area (CA)	0.30
Hydrology	Variable 3:	Water Source (Source)	0.70
	Variable 4:	Water Distribution (Dist)	0.70
	Variable 5:	Water Outflow (Outflow)	0.70
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 6:	Geomorphology (Geom)	0.80
	Variable 7:	Chemical Environment (Chem)	0.68
	Variable 8:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity (Veg)	0.80

### Functional Capacity Indices

<b>Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat</b>						Total Functional Points	FCI	
$V1_{connect}$	+	$V2_{CA}$	+	$(2 \times V8_{veg})$				
0.58	+	0.30	+	1.60				
						=		
						2.48	÷ 4 =	
							0.62	
<b>Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat</b>								
$(3 \times V3_{source})$	+	$(2 \times V4_{dist})$	+	$(2 \times V5_{outflow})$	+	$V6_{geom}$	+	$V7_{chem}$
2.10	+	1.40	+	1.40	+	0.80	+	0.68
						=		
						6.38	÷ 9 =	
							0.71	
<b>Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation</b>								
$V2_{CA}$	+	$(2 \times V3_{source})$	+	$(2 \times V4_{dist})$	+	$(2 \times V5_{outflow})$	+	$V6_{geom}$
0.30	+	1.40	+	1.40	+	1.40	+	0.80
						=		
						6.10	÷ 9 =	
							0.68	
<b>Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage</b>								
$V3_{source}$	+	$(2 \times V4_{dist})$	+	$(2 \times V5_{outflow})$	+	$V6_{geom}$		
0.70	+	1.40	+	1.40	+	0.80		
						=		
						4.30	÷ 6 =	
							0.72	
<b>Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal</b>								
$(2 \times V2_{CA})$	+	$(2 \times V4_{dist})$	+	$V6_{geom}$	+	$V7_{chem}$		
0.60	+	1.40	+	0.80	+	0.68		
						=		
						3.48	÷ 6 =	
							0.58	
<b>Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization</b>								
$V2_{CA}$	+	$(2 \times V6_{geom})$	+	$(2 \times V8_{veg})$				
0.30	+	1.60	+	1.60				
						=		
						3.50	÷ 5 =	
							0.70	
<b>Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support</b>								
$V1_{connect}$	+	$(2 \times V5_{outflow})$	+	$V6_{geom}$	+	$V7_{chem}$	+	$(2 \times V8_{veg})$
0.58	+	1.40	+	0.80	+	0.68	+	1.60
						=		
						5.06	÷ 7 =	
							0.72	

Sum of Individual FCI Scores **4.73**

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored ÷ 7

**Composite FCI Score 0.68**

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		Date of Evaluation: 7/30/2013	
Site Name or ID:	WL-4	Project Name: I-70 Bridge over Havana Street	
404 or Other Permit Application #:		Applicant Name: CDOT	
Evaluator Name(s):	Elly Weber	Evaluator's professional position and organization:	Biologist, Pinyon Environmental

<b>Location Information:</b>	
Site Coordinates (Decimal Degrees, e.g., 38.85, -104.96):	39.774947°, -104.863140°
Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83):	NAD 83
Elevation	5293
Location Information: Just outside interchange of Havana Street and I-70, southeast quadrant	
Associated stream/water body name:	N/A
Stream Order:	N/A
USGS Quadrangle Map:	Montbello
Map Scale: (Circle one)	x 1:24,000    1:100,000 Other 1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):	10190003
Wetland Ownership:	CDOT

<b>Project Information:</b>	
This evaluation is being performed at: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site (Check applicable box)	Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)
Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation	
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	0.0192 ac. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	0.0192ac. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured    ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
	Estimated    ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:	The AA boundary is the boundary of the wetland located wholly within the AOI.
Notes:	WL-4 is located in a low area along the west side of Havana Street, just to the south of the end of the concrete-lined canal, north of I-70



## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

*Check all that apply*

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to occur in the AA?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?
- ☐ The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP?
- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☐ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
*If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.*
- ☐ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

### Current Conditions

*Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.*

HGM Setting	<b>Water source</b>	Surface flow	Groundwater	<u>Precipitation</u>	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	<u>Unidirectional</u>	Vertical	Bi-directional	
	<b>Wetland Gradient</b>	<u>0 - 2%</u>	2-4%	4-10%	>10%
	<b># Surface Inlets</b>	Over-bank	0	<u>1</u>	2    3    >3
	<b># Surface Outlets</b>	<u>0</u>	1	2	3    >3
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	This wetland is a depressional wetland formed in a roadside ditch.			
	<b>HGM class</b>	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	<b>Water source</b>	<u>Surface flow</u>	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	<u>Unidirectional</u>	Vertical		
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description)	This wetland has presumably not changed since its formation.			
	<b>Previous HGM Class</b>	Riverine	Slope	<u>Depressional</u>	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 2

### Vegetation Habitat Description

*US FWS habitat classification according as reported in Cowardin et al. (1979).*

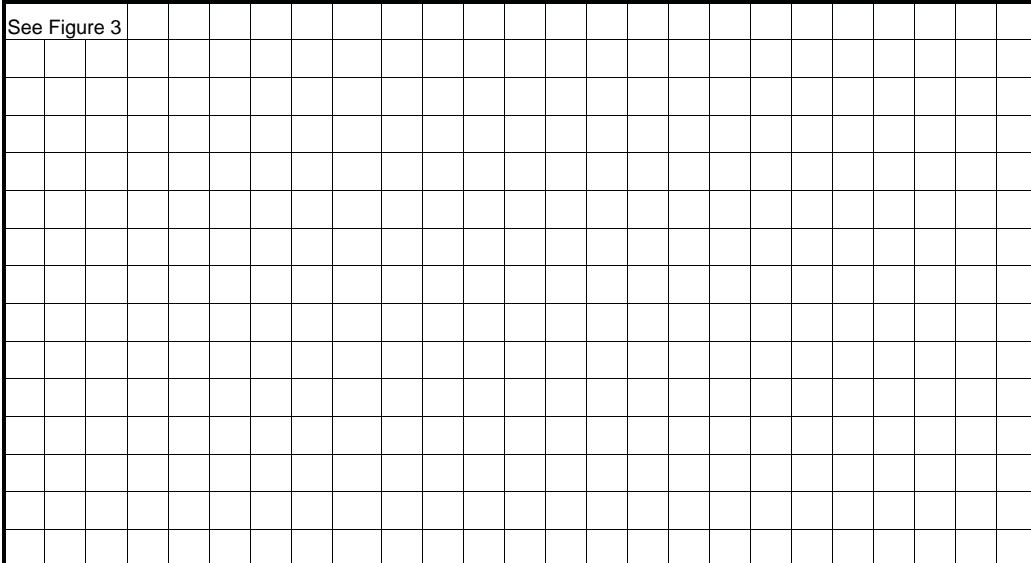
System	Subsystem	Class	Subclass	Water Regime	Other Modifiers	% AA
Palustrine	Palustrine	EM	Rooted vascular	E		100
Lacustrine	Littoral; Limnoral	Rock Bot. (RB) Uncon Bottom(UB) Aquatic Bed(AB) Rocky Shore(RS) Uncon Shore(US) Emergent(EM) Shrub-scrub(SS) Forested (FO)	Floating vascular; Rooted vascular; Algal; Persistent; Non-Persistent; Broad-leaved deciduous; Needle-leaved evergreen; Cobble - gravel; Sand; Mud; Organic	<b>Examples</b> Temporarily flooded(A); Saturated(B); Seasonally flooded(C); Seas.-flood./sat.(E); Semi-Perm. flooded(F); Intermittently exposed(G); Artificially flooded(K); Sat./semiperm./Seas. (Y); Int. exposed/permenant(Z)	Hypersaline(7) ; Eusaline(8); Mixosaline(9); Fresh(0); Acid(a); Circumneutral(c); Alkaline/calcareous(l); Organic(g); Mineral(n); Beaver(b); Partially Drained/ditched(d); Farmed(f); Diked/impounded(h); Artificial Substrate(r); Spoil(s); Excavated(x)	
Palustrine	Palustrine					
Riverine	Lower perennial; Upper perennial; Intermittent					

### Site Map

*Draw a sketch map of the site including relevant portions of the wetland, AA boundary, structures, habitat classes, and other significant features.*

Scale: 1 sq. =

See Figure 3



## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity

The Habitat Connectivity Variable is described by two sub-variables – Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss and Barriers to Migration and Dispersal. These sub-variables were treated as independent variables in FACWet Version 2.0. The merging of these variables makes their structure more consistent with that of other composite variables in FACWet. The new variable configuration also makes this landscape variable more accurately reflect the interactions amongst aquatic habitats in Colorado's agricultural and urbanized landscapes, which have a naturally low density of wetlands. The two Habitat Connectivity Sub-variables are scored in exactly the same manner as their FACWet 2.0 counterparts, as described below. The Habitat Connectivity Variable score is simply the arithmetic average of the two sub-variable scores which is entered on the second page of the Variable 1 data form. If there is little or no wetland or riparian habitat in the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (defined below), then Sub-variable 1.1 is not scored.

### SV 1.1 - Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss (Do not score if few or no wetlands naturally exist in the HCE)

This sub-variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetlands or riparian habitat the AA has become as the result of habitat destruction. To score this sub-variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within the 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This zone is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment to estimate the amount of natural wetland loss. Historical photographs, National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, hydric soil maps can be helpful in making these determinations. Floodplain maps are especially valuable in river-dominated regions, such as the Front Range urban corridor. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change is used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 m perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research can be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, soil maps, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area of existing wetland by the total amount of existing and historical wetland and riparian habitat, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below. Enter sub-variable score at the bottom of p.2 of the Habitat Connectivity data form.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Notes:

## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity p. 2

### SV 1.2: Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This sub-variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline **all** existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats, as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Major Highway	I-70
		Secondary Highway	
	x	Tertiary Roadway	Havana Street
	x	Railroad	Railroad spur on the west side of Havana Street, and to the SE
		Bike Path	
	x	Urban Development	Commercial, and light industrial area in Denver Metro Area
		Agricultural Development	
		Artificial Water Body	
		Fence	
	x	Ditch or Aqueduct	Concrete-lined ditch in northeast portion of study area
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

SV 1.1 Score	
SV 1.2 Score	0.58

Add SV 1.1 and 1.2 scores and divide by two to calculate variable score

**Variable 1 Score**

0.58

## Variable 2: Contributing Area

The AA's Contributing Area is defined as the 250-meter-wide zone surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to support characteristic functions of high quality wetland habitat. Depending on its condition, the contributing area can help maintain wetland condition or it can degrade it. Contributing Area condition is evaluated by considering the AA's Buffer and its Surrounding Land Use. Buffers are strips or patches of more-or-less natural upland and/or wetland habitat more than 5m wide. Buffers are contiguous with the AA boundary and they intercede between it and more intensively used lands. The AA Buffer is characterized with three sub-variables: Buffer Condition, Buffer Extent, and Average Buffer Width. The Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable considers changes within the Contributing Area that limit its capacity to support characteristic wetland functions. Many of the acute, on-site effects of land use change in the Contributing Area are specifically captured by Variables 3 - 8.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Delimit the Contributing Area on an aerial photograph as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Evaluate and then rate the Buffer Condition sub-variable using the scoring guidelines. Record the score in the cell provided on the datasheet.
3. Indicate on the aerial photograph zones surrounding the AA which have  $\geq 5m$  of buffer vegetation and those which do not.
4. Calculate the percentage of the AA which has a Buffer and record the value where indicated on the data sheet.
5. Rate the *Buffer Extent* Sub-variable using the scoring guidelines.
6. Determine the average Buffer width by drawing a line perpendicularly from the AA boundary to the outer extent of the buffer habitat. Measure line length and record its value on the data sheet. Repeat this process until a total of 8 lines have been sampled.
7. Calculate the average buffer width and record value on the data form. Then determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guidelines.
8. Score the Surrounding Land Use sub-variable by recording land use changes on the stressor list that affect the capacity of the landscape to support characteristic wetland functioning.
9. Enter the **lowest** of the three Buffer sub-variable scores along with the Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable score in the Contributing Area Variable scoring formula at the bottom of p. 2 of the data form. The Contributing Area Variable is the average of the two sub-variable scores.

### SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition

0.57 **SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition Score**

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Condition Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Buffer vegetation is predominately native vegetation, human-caused disturbance of the substrate is not evident, and human visitation is minimal. Common examples: Wilderness areas, undeveloped forest and range lands.
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Buffer vegetation may have a mixed native-nonnative composition, but characteristic structure and complexity remain. Soils are mostly undisturbed or have recovered from past human disturbance. Little or only low-impact human visitation. Buffers with higher levels of substrate disturbance may be included here if the buffer is still able to maintain predominately native vegetation. Common examples: Dispersed camping areas in national forests, common in wildland parks (e.g. State Parks) and open spaces.
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species. Vegetation structure may be somewhat altered, such as by brush clearing. Moderate substrate disturbance and compaction occurs, and small pockets of greater disturbance may exist. Common examples: City natural areas, mountain hay meadows.
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species and vegetation structure has been strongly altered by the complete removal of one or more strata. Soil disturbance and the intensity of human visitation are generally high. Common examples: Open lands around resource extraction sites (e.g., gravel mines), clear cut logging areas, ski slopes.
<0.6	Non-functioning	Buffer is nearly or entirely absent.

### SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent

0.00 Percent of AA with Buffer

0.55 **SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent**

Subvariable Score	Condition Class	% Buffer Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	90 - 100% of AA with Buffer
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	70-90% of AA with Buffer
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	51-69% of AA with Buffer
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	26-50% of AA with Buffer
<0.6	Non-functioning	0-25% of AA with Buffer



## Variable 2: Contributing Area (p. 2)

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width

Record measured buffer widths in the spaces below and average.

Buffer Width (m)	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Line #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Avg. Buffer Width (m)

0.2

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width Score

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Width Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Average Buffer width is 190-250m
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Average Buffer width is 101-189m
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Average Buffer width is 31-100m
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Average Buffer width is 6-30m
<0.6	Non-functioning	Average Buffer width is 0-5m

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use

0.5

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use Score

Catalog and characterize land use changes in the surrounding landscape and score.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stressors	Comments/description
	x	Industrial/commercial	Hotels, restaurants, light-industrial, including CDOT maintenance facilities
	x	Urban	High Density development in Denver and Commerce City
		Residential	
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	x	Transportation Corridor	Interstate 70 and Havana interchange
		Urban Parklands	
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
	Biological Resource Extraction		

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed Surrounding Landscape.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the Surrounding Landscape, but changes have minimal effect on the the landscape's capacity to support characteristic aquatic functioning, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the area.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Surrounding Landscape has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its capacity to support natural wetland function and it is not an overt source of pollutants or sediment. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the Surrounding Landscape has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surfaces; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. Supportive capacity of the land has been greatly diminished but not totally extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and many cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	The Surrounding Landscape is essentially completely developed or is otherwise a cause of severe ecological stress on wetland habitats. Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes generally rate a score of less than 0.6.

Buffer Score  
(Lowest score)

Surrounding  
Land Use

$$(0.2 + 0.5) \div 2 = \text{Variable 2 Score} \quad 0.35$$

### Variable 3: Water Source

This variable is concerned with **up-gradient** hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of impacts to the AA's water source, including the quantity and timing of water delivery, and the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 7.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
	Dams	
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
	Culverts or Constrictions	
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
	Non-point Source	
	Increased Drainage Area	
	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	
×	Impermeable Surface Runoff	I-70 interchange and surrounding commercial and industrial area
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

Variable 3 Score

0.75

## Variable 4: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally result from geomorphic modifications within the AA. To score this variable, identify stressors within the AA that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph of the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water.

Because the wetland's ability to distribute water in a characteristic fashion is fundamentally dependent on the condition of its water source, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Distribution score**. For example, if the Water Source variable is rated at 0.85, the Water Distribution score will usually have the potential to attain a maximum score of 0.85. Additional stressors within or outside the lower end of the AA effecting water distribution (e.g., ditches and levees) will reduce the score from the maximum value.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
✗ Alteration of Water Source	See variable 3: water source
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Enlarged Channel	
Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
Weirs	
Dikes/Levees/Berms	
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

Variable 4 Score

0.75

### Variable 5: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with **down-gradient** hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water and water-borne materials and energy out of the AA. In particular it illustrates the degree to which the AA can support the functioning of down-gradient habitats. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, infiltration/groundwater recharge, and the energetic characteristics of water delivered to dependent habitats. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on how water, energy and associated materials are exported out of the AA and their ability it support down-gradient habitats in a manner consistent with their HGM (regional) subclass.

Because the wetland's ability to export water and materials in a characteristic fashion is to a very large degree dependent the condition of its water source, as with the Water Distribution variable, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Outflow score.**

#### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
✗	Alteration of Water Source	See variable 3: water source
	Ditches	
	Dikes/Levees	
	Road Grades	
	Culverts	
	Diversions	
	Constrictions	
	Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
	Hardened/Engineered Channel	
	Artificial Stream Banks	
	Weirs	
	Confined Bridge Openings	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> <i>Reference Standard</i>	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> <i>Highly Functioning</i>	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> <i>Functioning</i>	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> <i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	<b>F</b> <i>Non-functioning</i>	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

Variable 5 Score

0.75

## Variable 6: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, dikes, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems, geomorphic changes to the stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA (i.e., small is size). Alterations may involve the bed and bank (substrate embeddedness or morphological changes), stream instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland surface hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alterations can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, **do not** include these resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration **within the AA** – For example, the width and depth of a ditch or the size of a levee **within the AA** would describe the extent of the stressors. The secondary effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which can be significant but not immediately obvious.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments
	Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
	Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc.	
	Grading	
	Compaction	
	Plowing/Disking	
	Excessive Sedimentation	
	Dumping	
	Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
×	Sand Accumulation	From road grit from Havana Street
	Channel Instability/Over Widening	
	Excessive Bank Erosion	
	Channelization	
	Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	Beaver Dam Removal	
	Substrate Embeddedness	
	Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

**Variable 6  
Score**

0.79



## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants, water and soil characteristics. The origin of pollutants may be within or outside the AA. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of stressors is often identified by the presence of indirect indicators. Five sub-variables are used to describe the Water and Soil Chemical Environment: Nutrient Enrichment/Eutrophication/Oxygen; Sedimentation/Turbidity; Toxic Contamination/pH; Temperature; and Soil Chemistry and Redox Potential. Utilization of web-based data mining tools is highly recommended to help inform and support variable scores.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into sub-variables which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each sub-variable, determine its score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet. Scoring sub-variables is carried out in exactly the same way as normal variable scoring.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. The lowest sub-variable score sets the letter grade range. The composite of sub-variables influences the score within that range.

Sub-variable	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
SV 7.1 Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock			0.80
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.2 Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.75
	Excessive Deposition	x	Road grit from Havana Street	
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.3 Toxic contamination/ pH	Recent Chemical Spills			0.60
	Nearby Industrial Sites	x	Industrial areas to north and west	
	Road Drainage/Runoff			
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff			
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	Acid Mine Drainage			
	Point Source Discharge			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.4 Temperature	Excessive Temperature Regime			0.80
	Lack of Shading			
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
	Industrial Discharge			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.5 Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			0.80
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance			
	Dumping/introduced Soil			
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment p.2

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each sub-variable score from p. 1 of the V7 data form and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.80	+	0.75	+	0.60	+	0.80	+	0.80	=	3.75

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9		The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9		The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 7.0 but < 0.8		The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7		The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6		The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 7 Score

0.73

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It particularly focuses on the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, and influence primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation, channel stabilization and sediment retention. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the structure, diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation stratum that would normally be present in the HGM (regional) subclass being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition or from the natural range of variability exhibited the HGM subclass or regional subclass. This variable has four sub-variables, each corresponding to a stratum of vegetation: Tree Canopy; Shrub Layer; Herbaceous Layer; and Aquatics.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate and record the current coverage of each vegetation layer at the top of the table.
4. Record the Reference Standard or expected percent coverage of each vegetation layer to create the sub-variable weighting factor. The condition of predominant vegetation layers has a greater influence on the variable score than do minor components.
5. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Reference/expected Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
6. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table. The difference between the expected and observed stratum coverages is one measure of stratum alteration.
7. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score". If a stratum has been wholly removed score it as 0.5.
8. Multiply each layer's *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* score by its Veg. Layer Sub-variable scores and enter the products in the labeled cells. These are the weighted sub-variable scores. Individually sum the *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* and *Weighted Sub-variables scores*.
9. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 8 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

Current % Coverage of Layer	Vegetation Layers				Comments
	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	
Stressor					
Noxious Weeds					
Exotic/Invasive spp.					
Tree Harvest					
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal					
Livestock Grazing					
Excessive Herbivory					
Mowing/Haying					
Herbicide					
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization					
Dewatering					
Over Saturation					
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT COVERAGE AND REFERENCE/EXPECTED			0		

Reference/Expected % Cover of Layer		+	0.10	+	1.00	+		=	1.1
	x		x		x		x		
Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score			0.8		0.8				
	II		II		II		II		
Weighted Sub-variable Score		+	0.08	+	0.80	+		=	0.88

0.80

**Variable 8 Score**

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity p. 2

### Sub-variable 8 Scoring Guidelines:

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non- functioning	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.

## FACWet Score Card

### Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted.
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

VARIABLE SCORE TABLE			
Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity (Connect)	0.58
	Variable 2:	Contributing Area (CA)	0.35
Hydrology	Variable 3:	Water Source (Source)	0.75
	Variable 4:	Water Distribution (Dist)	0.75
	Variable 5:	Water Outflow (Outflow)	0.75
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 6:	Geomorphology (Geom)	0.79
	Variable 7:	Chemical Environment (Chem)	0.73
	Variable 8:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity (Veg)	0.80

### Functional Capacity Indices

**Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat**

$$V1_{\text{connect}} + V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.58 + 0.35 + 1.60 = 2.53 \div 4 = 0.63$$

**Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat**

$$(3 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} = 2.25 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 0.79 + 0.73 = 6.77 \div 9 = 0.75$$

**Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation**

$$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V8_{\text{veg}} = 0.35 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 0.79 + 0.80 = 6.44 \div 9 = 0.72$$

**Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage**

$$V3_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} = 0.75 + 1.50 + 1.50 + 0.79 = 4.54 \div 6 = 0.76$$

**Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal**

$$(2 \times V2_{\text{CA}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} = 0.70 + 1.50 + 0.79 + 0.73 = 3.72 \div 6 = 0.62$$

**Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization**

$$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V6_{\text{geom}}) + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.35 + 1.58 + 1.60 = 3.53 \div 5 = 0.71$$

**Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support**

$$V1_{\text{connect}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}}) = 0.58 + 1.50 + 0.79 + 0.73 + 1.60 = 5.20 \div 7 = 0.74$$

Sum of Individual FCI Scores **4.93**

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored  $\div 7$

**Composite FCI Score 0.70**



**Note:** The following FACWet form was completed for a wetland delineated on November 18, 2013. To be consistent with the previous delineation's numbering structure, Globeville Outfall AA-1, as shown on the FACWet form, was assigned WET-Culv02 in the body of this memorandum.

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

<b>General Information</b>		Date of Evaluation:		11/18/2013	
Site Name or ID:	Globeville Outfall AA-1		Project Name:	I70 East Supplemental DEIS	
404 or Other Permit Application #:	404 Permit being processed		Applicant Name:	Colorado Department of Transportation	
Evaluator Name(s):	Karin McShea <small>Evaluator's professional position and organization:</small>		Biologist, Pinyon Environmental		

<b>Location Information:</b>			
Site Coordinates (Decimal Degrees, e.g., 38.85, -104.96):	39.776380°, -104.977010°	Geographic Datum Used (NAD 83):	WGS 84
		Elevation	5,172 feet
Location Information: Globeville Park northeast of 38th St. and Arkins Ct. intersection. Follow Arkins Ct. northeast of intersection for approximately 600 feet. Wetland located west of Arkins Ct., between street and S.Platte River Trail.			
Associated stream/water body name:	Un-named drainage ditch.	Stream Order:	n/a
USGS Quadrangle Map:	Commerce City, CO	Map Scale: (Circle one)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1:24,000    1:100,000 <input type="radio"/> Other    1:
Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):	Middle South Platte - Cherry Creek, 10190003	Wetland Ownership:	City and County of Denver Parks and Rec - Globeville Landing Park

<b>Project Information:</b>			
This evaluation is being performed at: (Check applicable box)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site	Purpose of Evaluation (check all applicable):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)
	Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Creation		
Total Size of Wetland Involved: (Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)	0.0025 ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	
Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment)	0.0025 ac.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured	0.0025 ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated	ac.    ac.    ac.    ac.
Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:		The AA boundary includes the entire wetland, which is being impacted by the project.	
Notes:	The wetland is a small fringe PEM wetland located in a storm water detention area. The detention area was constructed with loose riprap on the bottom and sides of the detention area, with a concrete bottomed and sided flume at the downstream end of the detention area. The wetland is located on a small collection of sediment that has accumulated within the rip-rapped detention area. Although water freely moves through the system, the detention area acts as a pond, therefore the system is considered a ponded area.		

## ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

### Special Concerns

Check all that apply

- ☐ Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).
- ☐ Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons.
- ☐ Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.
- ☐ The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?
- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **KNOWN** to occur in the AA? List Below.

- ☐ Federally threatened or endangered species are **SUSPECTED** to possibly occur in the AA?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?

- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

- ☐ Other special concerns (please describe)

### HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- ☐ AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- ☐ AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.
- ☒ AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

### Current Conditions

Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.

HGM Setting	<b>Water source</b>	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown		
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	Unidirectional	Vertical	Bi-directional			
	<b>Wetland Gradient</b>	0 - 2%	2-4%	4-10%	>10%		
	<b># Surface Inlets</b>	Over-bank	0	1	2	3	>3
	<b># Surface Outlets</b>		0	1	2	3	>3
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine)	Wetland associated with a storm water detention area.					
	<b>HGM class</b>	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine		

### Historical Conditions

Previous wetland typology	<b>Water source</b>	Surface flow	Groundwater	Precipitation	Unknown
	<b>Hydrodynamics</b>	Unidirectional	Vertical		
	<b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description)	Wetland associated with a storm water detention area.			
	<b>Previous HGM Class</b>	Riverine	Slope	Depressional	Lacustrine

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass): The wetland is located in a storm water detention area. Soil/sediment material in the AA is coarse and is indicative of road maintenance material. Water ponds behind a corrugated metal and concrete detention wall, then when the detention area is filled, overflows the detention wall over a wide concrete flume through riprap and into the South Platte River. The detention area is located in a depression relative to the surrounding landscape.



## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity

The Habitat Connectivity Variable is described by two sub-variables – Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss and Barriers to Migration and Dispersal. These sub-variables were treated as independent variables in FACWet Version 2.0. The merging of these variables makes their structure more consistent with that of other composite variables in FACWet. The new variable configuration also makes this landscape variable more accurately reflect the interactions amongst aquatic habitats in Colorado's agricultural and urbanized landscapes, which have a naturally low density of wetlands. The two Habitat Connectivity Sub-variables are scored in exactly the same manner as their FACWet 2.0 counterparts, as described below. The Habitat Connectivity Variable score is simply the arithmetic average of the two sub-variable scores which is entered on the second page of the Variable 1 data form. If there is little or no wetland or riparian habitat in the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (defined below), then Sub-variable 1.1 is not scored.

### SV 1.1 - Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss

*(Do not score if few or no wetlands naturally exist in the HCE)*

This sub-variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetlands or riparian habitat the AA has become as the result of habitat destruction. To score this sub-variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within the 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This zone is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment to estimate the amount of natural wetland loss. Historical photographs, National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, hydric soil maps can be helpful in making these determinations. Floodplain maps are especially valuable in river-dominated regions, such as the Front Range urban corridor. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change is used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 m perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**.
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research can be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, soil maps, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area of existing wetland by the total amount of existing and historical wetland and riparian habitat, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below. Enter sub-variable score at the bottom of p.2 of the Habitat Connectivity data form.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).

Notes: The South Platte River flows through the HCE. Historically, the majority of the HCE was most likely a wide floodplain and riparian corridor with the river meandering through the corridor. The river has been channelized and the banks of the river have been riprapped and reinforced mostly eliminating any wetlands and riparian areas. The landscape surrounding the river has been changed to an urbanized setting with numerous buildings and impermeable surfaces such as parking lots and roads.



## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity p. 2

### SV 1.2: Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This sub-variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline **all** existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats, as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

Stressors = artificial barriers	✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	X	Major Highway	Interstate 70 crosses the northern portion of the HCE.
		Secondary Highway	
	X	Tertiary Roadway	38th Street and bridge bisects the HCE.
	X	Railroad	Railroad bridge crosses over the river and bisects the HCE.
	X	Bike Path	Colorado Front Range Trail and South Platte River Trail.
	X	Urban Development	Commercial areas and Denver Colliseum are in the HCE.
		Agricultural Development	
	X	Artificial Water Body	Stormwater detention area.
	X	Fence	Fences surround commercial buildings and parking areas.
		Ditch or Aqueduct	
		Aquatic Organism Barriers	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.

SV 1.1 Score	0.60
SV 1.2 Score	0.58

Add SV 1.1 and 1.2 scores and divide by two to calculate variable score

**Variable 1 Score**

0.55

## Variable 2: Contributing Area

The AA's Contributing Area is defined as the 250-meter-wide zone surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to support characteristic functions of high quality wetland habitat. Depending on its condition, the contributing area can help maintain wetland condition or it can degrade it. Contributing Area condition is evaluated by considering the AA's Buffer and its Surrounding Land Use. Buffers are strips or patches of more-or-less natural upland and/or wetland habitat more than 5m wide. Buffers are contiguous with the AA boundary and they intercede between it and more intensively used lands. The AA Buffer is characterized with three sub-variables: Buffer Condition, Buffer Extent, and Average Buffer Width. The Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable considers changes within the Contributing Area that limit its capacity to support characteristic wetland functions. Many of the acute, on-site effects of land use change in the Contributing Area are specifically captured by Variables 3 - 8.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Delimit the Contributing Area on an aerial photograph as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Evaluate and then rate the Buffer Condition sub-variable using the scoring guidelines. Record the score in the cell provided on the datasheet.
3. Indicate on the aerial photograph zones surrounding the AA which have ≥5m of buffer vegetation and those which do not.
4. Calculate the percentage of the AA which has a Buffer and record the value where indicated on the data sheet.
5. Rate the *Buffer Extent* Sub-variable using the scoring guidelines.
6. Determine the average Buffer width by drawing a line perpendicularly from the AA boundary to the outer extent of the buffer habitat. Measure line length and record its value on the data sheet. Repeat this process until a total of 8 lines have been sampled.
7. Calculate the average buffer width and record value on the data form. Then determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guidelines.
8. Score the Surrounding Land Use sub-variable by recording land use changes on the stressor list that affect the capacity of the landscape to support characteristic wetland functioning.
9. Enter the **lowest** of the three Buffer sub-variable scores along with the Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable score in the Contributing Area Variable scoring formula at the bottom of p. 2 of the data form. The Contributing Area Variable is the average of the two sub-variable scores.

### SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition

0.62 **SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition Score**

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Condition Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<i>Reference Standard</i>	Buffer vegetation is predominately native vegetation, human-caused disturbance of the substrate is not evident, and human visitation is minimal. Common examples: Wilderness areas, undeveloped forest and range lands.
<0.9 - 0.8	<i>Highly Functioning</i>	Buffer vegetation may have a mixed native-nonnative composition, but characteristic structure and complexity remain. Soils are mostly undisturbed or have recovered from past human disturbance. Little or only low-impact human visitation. Buffers with higher levels of substrate disturbance may be included here if the buffer is still able to maintain predominately native vegetation. Common examples: Dispersed camping areas in national forests, common in wildland parks (e.g. State Parks) and open spaces.
<0.8 - 0.7	<i>Functioning</i>	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species. Vegetation structure may be somewhat altered, such as by brush clearing. Moderate substrate disturbance and compaction occurs, and small pockets of greater disturbance may exist. Common examples: City natural areas, mountain hay meadows.
<0.7 - 0.6	<i>Functioning Impaired</i>	Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species and vegetation structure has been strongly altered by the complete removal of one or more strata. Soil disturbance and the intensity of human visitation are generally high. Common examples: Open lands around resource extraction sites (e.g., gravel mines), clear cut logging areas, ski slopes.
<0.6	<i>Non-functioning</i>	Buffer is nearly or entirely absent.

### SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent

30 Percent of AA with Buffer

0.60 **SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent**

Subvariable Score	Condition Class	% Buffer Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<i>Reference Standard</i>	90 - 100% of AA with Buffer
<0.9 - 0.8	<i>Highly Functioning</i>	70-90% of AA with Buffer
<0.8 - 0.7	<i>Functioning</i>	51-69% of AA with Buffer
<0.7 - 0.6	<i>Functioning Impaired</i>	26-50% of AA with Buffer
<0.6	<i>Non-functioning</i>	0-25% of AA with Buffer

## Variable 2: Contributing Area (p. 2)

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width

Record measured buffer widths in the spaces below and average.

Buffer Width (m)	11	43	16	10	8	1	0	1	11
Line #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Avg. Buffer Width (m)

0.62

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width Score

Subvariable Score	Condition Grade	Buffer Width Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	Reference Standard	Average Buffer width is 190-250m
<0.9 - 0.8	Highly Functioning	Average Buffer width is 101-189m
<0.8 - 0.7	Functioning	Average Buffer width is 31-100m
<0.7 - 0.6	Functioning Impaired	Average Buffer width is 6-30m
<0.6	Non-functioning	Average Buffer width is 0-5m

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use

0.6

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use Score

Catalog and characterize land use changes in the surrounding landscape and score.

Stressors = Land Use Changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stressors	Comments/description
	X	Industrial/commercial	Pepsi warehouse, Auto Glass bussiness, Concrete bussiness.
	X	Urban	Parking areas, roads, trails within contributing area.
		Residential	
		Rural	
		Dryland Farming	
		Intensive Agriculture	
		Orchards or Nurseries	
		Livestock Grazing	
	X	Transportation Corridor	38th street, railroad, and Arkins Street located in contributing area.
	X	Urban Parklands	Globeville Landing Park surrounds AA; vegetation is maintained.
		Dams/impoundments	
		Artificial Water body	
		Physical Resource Extraction	
		Biological Resource Extraction	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No appreciable land use change has been imposed Surrounding Landscape.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Some land use change has occurred in the Surrounding Landscape, but changes have minimal effect on the the landscape's capacity to support characteristic aquatic functioning, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the area.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Surrounding Landscape has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its capacity to support natural wetland function and it is not an overt source of pollutants or sediment. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Land use changes within the Surrounding Landscape has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surfaces; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. Supportive capacity of the land has been greatly diminished but not totally extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and many cropping situations would commonly rate a score within this range.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	The Surrounding Landscape is essentially completely developed or is otherwise a cause of severe ecological stress on wetland habitats. Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes generally rate a score of less than 0.6.

Buffer Score  
(Lowest score)

Surrounding  
Land Use

( 0.6 + 0.6 ) ÷ 2 = Variable 2 Score

0.60

### Variable 3: Water Source

This variable is concerned with **up-gradient** hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of impacts to the AA's water source, including the quantity and timing of water delivery, and the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 7.

#### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)	
	Dams	
	Diversions	
	Groundwater pumping	
	Draw-downs	
✗	Culverts or Constrictions	Water passes through culvert upstream of AA.
	Point Source (urban, ind., ag.)	
✗	Non-point Source	Stormwater drain.
	Increased Drainage Area	
✗	Storm Drain/Urban Runoff	Unreliable water source.
✗	Impermeable Surface Runoff	Unreliable water source.
	Irrigation Return Flows	
	Mining/Natural Gas Extraction	
	Transbasin Diversion	
	Actively Managed Hydrology	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Depletion	Augmentation
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.	Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>	Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b>
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.	Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.

Variable 3 Score

0.7

## Variable 4: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally result from geomorphic modifications within the AA. To score this variable, identify stressors within the AA that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph of the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water.

Because the wetland's ability to distribute water in a characteristic fashion is fundamentally dependent on the condition of its water source, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Distribution score**. For example, if the Water Source variable is rated at 0.85, the Water Distribution score will usually have the potential to attain a maximum score of 0.85. Additional stressors within or outside the lower end of the AA affecting water distribution (e.g., ditches and levees) will reduce the score from the maximum value.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

✓ Stressors	Comments/description
Alteration of Water Source	
Ditches	
Ponding/Impoundment	
Culverts	
Road Grades	
Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
Hardened/Engineered Channel	
Enlarged Channel	
✗ Artificial Banks/Shoreline	Riprapped banks.
Weirs	
Dikes/Levees/Berms	
Diversions	
Sediment/Fill Accumulation	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Non-riverine	Riverine
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.	Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.	Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.	In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating.	Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.	Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.

Variable 4 Score

0.8



## Variable 5: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with **down-gradient** hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water and water-borne materials and energy out of the AA. In particular it illustrates the degree to which the AA can support the functioning of down-gradient habitats. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, infiltration/groundwater recharge, and the energetic characteristics of water delivered to dependent habitats. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on how water, energy and associated materials are exported out of the AA and their ability it support down-gradient habitats in a manner consistent with their HGM (regional) subclass.

Because the wetland's ability to export water and materials in a characteristic fashion is to a very large degree dependent the condition of its water source, as with the Water Distribution variable, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Outflow score.**

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

✓	Stressors	Comments/description
	Alteration of Water Source	
	Ditches	
	Dikes/Levees	
	Road Grades	
✗	Culverts	Water flows through a culvert before entering South Platte River.
	Diversions	
✗	Constrictions	Water flows through a constricted area before entering South Platte River.
	Channel Incision/Entrenchment	
✗	Hardened/Engineered Channel	The sides and bottom of the stormwater area downstream of AA is concrete.
✗	Artificial Stream Banks	The sides of the storm water area and South Platte River have artificial banks.
	Weirs	
✗	Confined Bridge Openings	Several bridges cross the South Platte River downstream of the AA.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system.

Variable 5 Score

0.69

## Variable 6: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, dikes, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems, geomorphic changes to the stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA (i.e., small is size). Alterations may involve the bed and bank (substrate embeddedness or morphological changes), stream instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland surface hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alterations can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, **do not** include these resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration **within the AA** – For example, the width and depth of a ditch or the size of a levee **within the AA** would describe the extent of the stressors. The secondary effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which can be significant but not immediately obvious.

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stressors	Comments
	Dredging/Excavation/Mining	
	Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc.	
	Grading	
	Compaction	
	Plowing/Disking	
	Excessive Sedimentation	
	Dumping	
	Hoof Shear/Pugging	
	Aggregate or Mineral Mining	
X	Sand Accumulation	Sand and sediment have recently deposited within the AA.
	Channel Instability/Over Widening	
	Excessive Bank Erosion	
	Channelization	
	Reconfigured Stream Channels	
	Artificial Banks/Shoreline	
	Beaver Dam Removal	
	Substrate Embeddedness	
	Lack or Excess of Woody Debris	

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.

**Variable 6  
Score**

0.7

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants, water and soil characteristics. The origin of pollutants may be within or outside the AA. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of stressors is often identified by the presence of indirect indicators. Five sub-variables are used to describe the Water and Soil Chemical Environment: Nutrient Enrichment/Eutrophication/Oxygen; Sedimentation/Turbidity; Toxic Contamination/pH; Temperature; and Soil Chemistry and Redox Potential. Utilization of web-based data mining tools is highly recommended to help inform and support variable scores.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into sub-variables which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each sub-variable, determine its score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet. Scoring sub-variables is carried out in exactly the same way as normal variable scoring.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. The lowest sub-variable score sets the letter grade range. The composite of sub-variables influences the score within that range.

Sub-variable	Stressor Indicator	✓	Comments	Sub-variable Score
SV 7.1 Nutrient Enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)	Livestock			0.70
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Septic/Sewage			
	Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.	X	Algae growth next to AA.	
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	X	Vehicle fluids, herbicides, etc.	
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
SV 7.2 Sedimentation/ Turbidity	Excessive Erosion			0.80
	Excessive Deposition			
	Fine Sediment Plumes			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Excessive Turbidity			
	Nearby Construction Site			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	X	Vehicle fluids, herbicides, etc.	
SV 7.3 Toxic contamination/ pH	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			0.50
	Recent Chemical Spills			
	Nearby Industrial Sites	X	Numerous nearby sites.	
	Road Drainage/Runoff	X	Numerous roads & parking lots.	
	Livestock			
	Agricultural Runoff			
	Storm Water Runoff	X	Stormwater detention area.	
	Fish/Wildlife Impacts			
	Vegetation Impacts			
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	X	Vehicle fluids, herbicides, etc.	
	Acid Mine Drainage			
SV 7.4 Temperature	Point Source Discharge			0.62
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
	Metal staining on rocks and veg.			
	Excessive Temperature Regime	X	Few trees in area.	
	Lack of Shading	X	No overhanging trees/shrubs.	
	Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge			
SV 7.5 Soil chemistry/ Redox potential	Industrial Discharge			0.80
	Cumulative Watershed NPS	X	Vehicle fluids, herbicides, etc.	
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			
	Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation			
	Mechanical Soil Disturbance			
	Dumping/introduced Soil	X	Recent sedimentation.	
	CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List			

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment p.2

### Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

Variable Score	Condition Class	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stress indicators not present or trivial.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system

Input each sub-variable score from p. 1 of the V7 data form and calculate the sum.

Nutrient enrichment/ Eutrophication/ Oxygen (D.O.)		Sedimentation/ Turbidity		Toxic contamination/ pH		Temperature		Soil chemistry/ Redox potential		Sum of Sub-variable Scores
0.70	+	0.80	+	0.50	+	0.62	+	0.80	=	3.42

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Rules		
		Single Factor		Composite Score
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	No single factor scores < 0.9		The factor scores sum > 4.5
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9		The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.7 but < 0.8		The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7	<b>X</b>	The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5
< 0.6	<b>F</b> Non-functioning	Any single factor scores < 0.6		The factor scores sum < 3.0

Variable 7 Score

0.65

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It particularly focuses on the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, and influence primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation, channel stabilization and sediment retention. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the structure, diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation stratum that would normally be present in the HGM (regional) subclass being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition or from the natural range of variability exhibited the HGM subclass or regional subclass. This variable has four sub-variables, each corresponding to a stratum of vegetation: Tree Canopy; Shrub Layer; Herbaceous Layer; and Aquatics.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination.
2. Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
3. Estimate and record the current coverage of each vegetation layer at the top of the table.
4. Record the Reference Standard or expected percent coverage of each vegetation layer to create the sub-variable weighting factor. The condition of predominant vegetation layers has a greater influence on the variable score than do minor components.
5. Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Reference/expected Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
6. Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table. The difference between the expected and observed stratum coverages is one measure of stratum alteration.
7. Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score". If a stratum has been wholly removed score it as 0.5.
8. Multiply each layer's *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* score by its Veg. Layer Sub-variable scores and enter the products in the labeled cells. These are the weighted sub-variable scores. Individually sum the *Reference Percent Cover of Layer* and *Weighted Sub-variables scores*.
9. Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 8 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

	Vegetation Layers				
Current % Coverage of Layer	0	0	98	0	
Stressor	Tree	Shrub	Herb	Aquatic	Comments
Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal	X				Girdling of some trees.
Dewatering					
Excessive Herbivory					
Exotic/Invasive spp.					
Herbicide					
Livestock Grazing					
Loss of Zonation/Homogenization			X		Loss of diversity.
Mowing/Haying					
Noxious Weeds					
Over Saturation					
Tree Harvest					
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT COVERAGE AND REFERENCE/EXPECTED	10	15	28	0	

Reference/Expected % Cover of Layer	10	+	15	+	70	+	0	=	95
	x		x		x		x		
Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score	0.6		0.6		0.75				
Weighted Sub-variable Score	6.00	+	9.00	+	52.50	+		=	67.5

Variable 8 Score

0.71

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page



## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity p. 2

### Sub-variable 8 Scoring Guidelines:

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

Variable Score	Condition Grade	Scoring Guidelines
1.0 - 0.9	<b>A</b> Reference Standard	Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.
<0.9 - 0.8	<b>B</b> Highly Functioning	Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.
<0.8 - 0.7	<b>C</b> Functioning	Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland.
<0.7 - 0.6	<b>D</b> Functioning Impaired	Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.
<0.6	<b>F</b> Non- functioning	Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.

## FACWet Score Card

**Scoring Procedure:**

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in the crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted.
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

Variable Score Table			
Buffer & Landscape Context	Variable 1:	Habitat Connectivity (Connect)	0.55
	Variable 2:	Contributing Area (CA)	0.60
Hydrology	Variable 3:	Water Source (Source)	0.70
	Variable 4:	Water Distribution (Dist)	0.80
	Variable 5:	Water Outflow (Outflow)	0.69
Abiotic and Biotic Habitat	Variable 6:	Geomorphology (Geom)	0.70
	Variable 7:	Chemical Environment (Chem)	0.65
	Variable 8:	Vegetation Structure and Complexity (Veg)	0.71

### Functional Capacity Indices

Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat	Total Functional Points	FCI
$V1_{\text{connect}} + V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}})$ <div> <div>0.55</div> <div>0.60</div> <div>1.42</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	2.57	0.64
Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat		
$(3 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}}$ <div> <div>2.10</div> <div>1.60</div> <div>1.38</div> <div>0.70</div> <div>0.65</div> <div></div> </div>	6.43	0.71
Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation		
$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V3_{\text{source}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V8_{\text{veg}}$ <div> <div>0.60</div> <div>1.40</div> <div>1.60</div> <div>1.38</div> <div>0.70</div> <div>0.71</div> </div>	6.39	0.71
Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage		
$V3_{\text{source}} + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}}$ <div> <div>0.70</div> <div>1.60</div> <div>1.38</div> <div>0.70</div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	4.38	0.73
Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal		
$(2 \times V2_{\text{CA}}) + (2 \times V4_{\text{dist}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}}$ <div> <div>1.20</div> <div>1.60</div> <div>0.70</div> <div>0.65</div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	4.15	0.69
Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization		
$V2_{\text{CA}} + (2 \times V6_{\text{geom}}) + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}})$ <div> <div>0.60</div> <div>1.40</div> <div>1.42</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	3.42	0.68
Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support		
$V1_{\text{connect}} + (2 \times V5_{\text{outflow}}) + V6_{\text{geom}} + V7_{\text{chem}} + (2 \times V8_{\text{veg}})$ <div> <div>0.55</div> <div>1.38</div> <div>0.70</div> <div>0.65</div> <div>1.42</div> <div></div> </div>	4.70	0.67

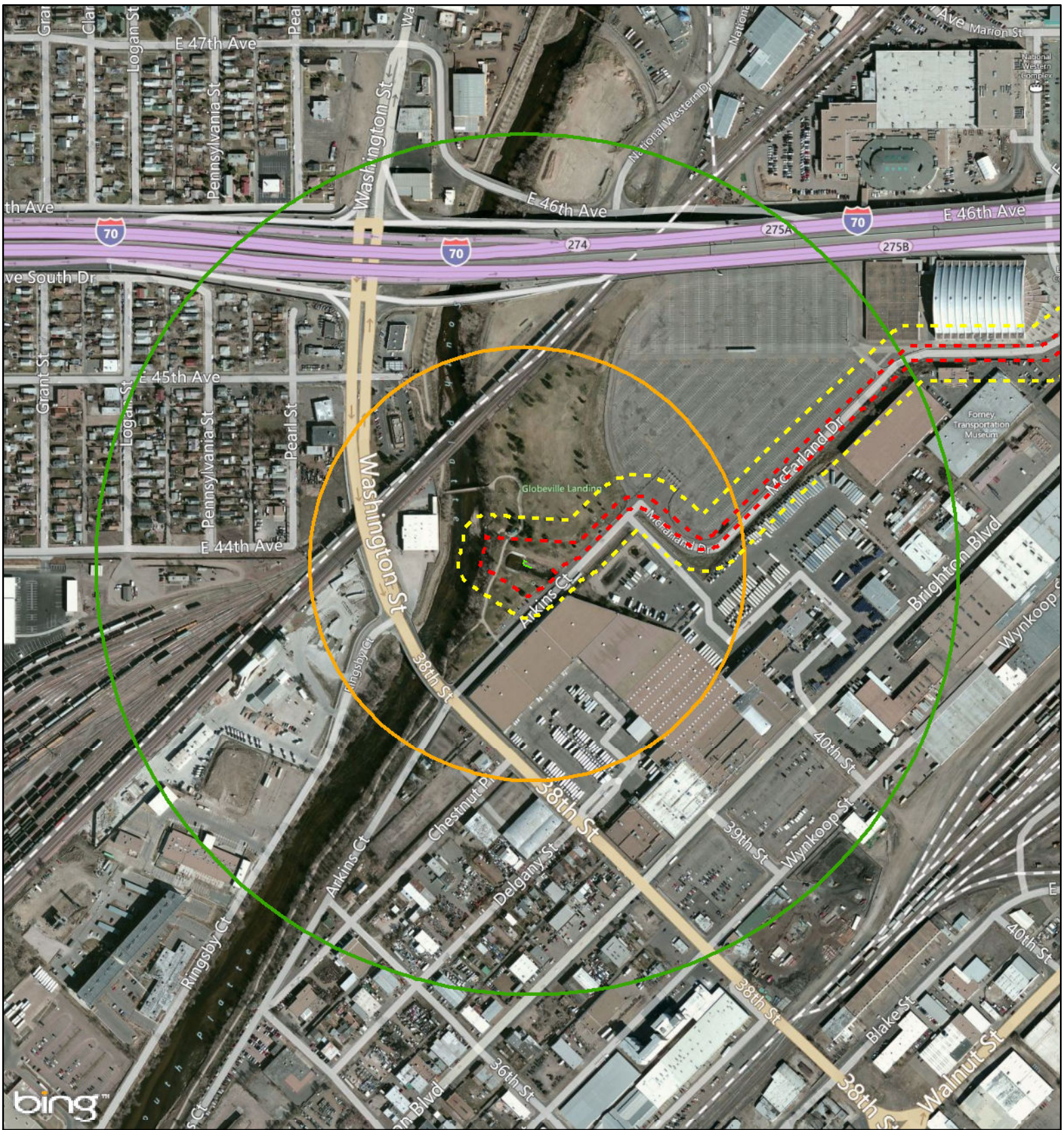
<b>Sum of Individual FCI Scores</b>	<b>4.84</b>
-------------------------------------	-------------

Divide by the Number of Functions Scored  $\div 7$

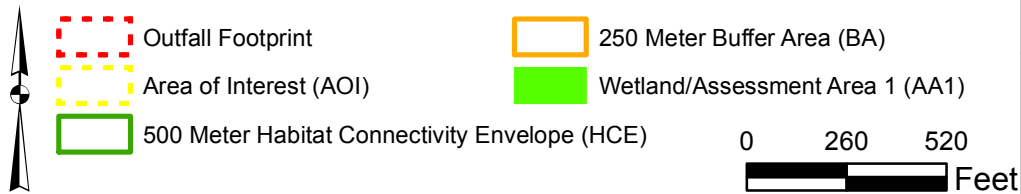
<b>Composite FCI Score</b>	<b>0.69</b>
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**Note:** The following FACWet form was completed for a wetland delineated on November 18, 2013. To be consistent with the previous delineation's numbering structure, Globeville Outfall AA-1, as shown on the FACWet form, was assigned WET-Culv02 in the body of this report.





## N Legend



**Pinyon**  
Environmental, Inc.

## **FACWet Assessment** 170 East Supplemental DEIS Denver County, Colorado

Site Location: Section 23, Township 3 South, Range 68 West, 6th Principal Meridian

Drawn By: MJS

Figure 1

Pinyon Project Number: 1/12-790-04.8020

Reviewed By: KKM

Date: 11/22/2013





N

**Legend**

Outfall Footprint

Area of Interest (AOI)

Wetland/Assessment Area 1 (AA1)

Open Water

0    37.5    75

Feet

**FACWet Assessment**

*170 East Supplemental DEIS*

*Denver County, Colorado*

Drawn By: MJS	Figure 2
Reviewed By: KKM	Date: 11/22/2013

Site Location: Section 23, Township 3 South, Range 68 West, 6th Principal Meridian

Pinyon Project Number: 1/12-790-04.8020



# **Attachment N – Appendix E**

## **USACE Jurisdictional Determination**





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT  
DENVER REGULATORY OFFICE, 9307 SOUTH WADSWORTH BOULEVARD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO 80128-6901

July 9, 2013

Mr. Aaron Eilers  
Colorado Dept. of Transportation  
Region 6  
2000 South Holly Street  
Denver, CO 80222

**RE: I-70 East, I-25 to Tower Road – Approved Jurisdictional Determination  
Corps File No. NWO-2013-1163-DEN**

Dear Mr. Eilers:

The above referenced project area has been reviewed in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act under which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulates the discharge of dredged and fill material, and any excavation activity associated with a dredge and fill project in waters of the United States. Waters of the U.S. includes ephemeral, intermittent and perennial streams, their surface connected wetlands and adjacent wetlands, certain lakes, ponds, drainage ditches and irrigation ditches that have a nexus to interstate commerce.

An approved jurisdictional determination (JD) has been completed for aquatic resources associated with the above referenced project area. The JDs is attached to this letter. If you are not in agreement with the JD decisions, you may request an administrative appeal under regulation 33 CFR 331, by using the attached Appeal Form and Administrative Appeal Process form. The request for appeal must be received within 60 days from the date of this letter. If you would like more information on the jurisdictional appeal process, contact this office. It is not necessary to submit a Request for Appeal if you do not object to the JD.

#### **Jurisdictional Waters**

The South Platte River, with associated wetlands, and Sand Creek, with associated wetlands, are all known as "Waters of the United States" and are regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. If any work associated with this project requires the placement of dredged or fill material, and any excavation associated with a dredged or fill project, either temporary or permanent, in these aquatic resources, this office should be notified by a proponent of the project for Department of the Army permits or changes in permit requirements pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

#### **Non-Jurisdictional Waters**

Reference is made to the November 13, 1986 Federal Register (Page 41217), Part 328 (a) Non-tidal drainage and irrigation ditches excavated on dry land, and (c) artificial lakes or ponds created by excavating and/or diking dry land to collect and retain water and which are used exclusively for such purposes as stock watering, irrigation, settling basins, or rice growing. The Corps of Engineers generally does not consider these types of aquatic resources waters of the U.S. except on a case-by-case basis. In this case, there is no relatively permanent flow from the detention basins and roadside ditches in the review area to a waters of the US. As such, the following detention basins and roadside ditches were

determined to be preambles waters and are not considered jurisdictional: WET279-01, WET279-02, WET280-01 – WET280-08, WET281-01 – WET281-07, WET282-01, WET284-01, and WET285-01 – WET285-06.

Based on the information provided, a Department of the Army (DA) Permit will not be required for the work in the above referenced detention basins and roadside ditches. Although a DA Permit will not be required for these areas, this does not eliminate the requirement that other applicable federal, state, and local permits be obtained as needed.

This JD is valid for a period of five years from the date of this letter, unless new information warrants revisions of the JDs before the expiration date, or unless the Corps has identified, after a possible public notice and comment, that specific geographic areas with rapidly changing environmental conditions merit re-verification on a more frequent basis.

The Omaha District, Regulatory Branch is committed to providing quality and timely service to our customers. In an effort to improve customer service, please take a moment to complete our Customer Service Survey found on our website at <http://per2.nwp.usace.army.mil/survey.html>. If you do not have Internet access, you may call and request a paper copy of the survey that you can complete and return to us by mail or fax. (Completing the survey is a voluntary action)

If there are any questions call Matt Montgomery of my office at 303-979-4120 and reference Corps File No. NWO-2013-1163-DEN.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Scott Franklin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J. Scott Franklin  
Chief, Denver Regulatory Office

**APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM**  
**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

**SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD):** July 1, 2013

**B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER:**

Denver Regulatory Office, I-70 East, I-25 to Tower Road, NWO-2013-1163-DEN

**C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

State: CO County/parish/borough: Denver City: Denver

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat.39.7749 N; Long.-104.8488 W

Name of nearest waterbody: NA

Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: NA

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC):10190003

☒ Check if map/diagram of review area and/or potential jurisdictional areas is/are available upon request.

☒ Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

**D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):**

☒ Office (Desk) Determination. Date: July 1, 2013

☐ Field Determination. Date(s):

**SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

**A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.**

There Are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area. [Required]

☐ Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

☐ Waters are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.  
Explain:

**B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.**

There Are no "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

**1. Waters of the U.S.**

**a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply):<sup>1</sup>**

- ☐ TNWs, including territorial seas
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
- ☐ Relatively permanent waters<sup>2</sup> (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Impoundments of jurisdictional waters
- ☐ Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

**b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:**

Non-wetland waters: linear feet: width (ft) and/or acres.

Wetlands: acres.

**c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: Pick List**

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):

**2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):<sup>3</sup>**

- ☒ Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.  
Explain: The following detention basins and roadside ditches were determined to be preamable waters and are not considered jurisdictional: WET279-01, WET279-02, WET280-01 – WET280-08, WET281-01 – WET281-07, WET282-01, WET284-01, and WET285-01 – WET285-06. See reference below in Section III.F.

<sup>1</sup> Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this form, an RPW is defined as a tributary that is not a TNW and that typically flows year-round or has continuous flow at least "seasonally" (e.g., typically 3 months).

<sup>3</sup> Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.



### SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

#### A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over TNWs and wetlands adjacent to TNWs. If the aquatic resource is a TNW, complete Section III.A.1 and Section III.D.1. only; if the aquatic resource is a wetland adjacent to a TNW, complete Sections III.A.1 and 2 and Section III.D.1.; otherwise, see Section III.B below.

1. TNW

Identify TNW:

Summarize rationale supporting determination:

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is "adjacent":

#### B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY):

This section summarizes information regarding characteristics of the tributary and its adjacent wetlands, if any, and it helps determine whether or not the standards for jurisdiction established under *Rapanos* have been met.

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over non-navigable tributaries of TNWs where the tributaries are "relatively permanent waters" (RPWs), i.e. tributaries that typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months). A wetland that directly abuts an RPW is also jurisdictional. If the aquatic resource is not a TNW, but has year-round (perennial) flow, skip to Section III.D.2. If the aquatic resource is a wetland directly abutting a tributary with perennial flow, skip to Section III.D.4.

A wetland that is adjacent to but that does not directly abut an RPW requires a significant nexus evaluation. Corps districts and EPA regions will include in the record any available information that documents the existence of a significant nexus between a relatively permanent tributary that is not perennial (and its adjacent wetlands if any) and a traditional navigable water, even though a significant nexus finding is not required as a matter of law.

If the waterbody<sup>4</sup> is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: Pick List

Drainage area: Pick List

Average annual rainfall: inches

Average annual snowfall: inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

☐ Tributary flows directly into TNW.

☐ Tributary flows through Pick List tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are Pick List river miles from TNW.

Project waters are Pick List river miles from RPW.

Project waters are Pick List aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Project waters are Pick List aerial (straight) miles from RPW.

Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

Identify flow route to TNW<sup>5</sup>:

Tributary stream order, if known:

<sup>4</sup> Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

<sup>5</sup> Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW.

(b) General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply):

Tributary is: ☐ Natural  
☐ Artificial (man-made). Explain:  
☐ Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

Average width: feet  
Average depth: feet  
Average side slopes: Pick List.

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Silts	<input type="checkbox"/> Sands	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="checkbox"/> Cobbles	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravel	<input type="checkbox"/> Muck
<input type="checkbox"/> Bedrock	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation. Type/% cover:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explain:		

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain:

Tributary geometry: Pick List

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: Pick List

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: Pick List

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is: Pick List. Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: Pick List. Explain findings:

☐ Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Bed and banks	
<input type="checkbox"/> OHWM <sup>6</sup> (check all indicators that apply):	
<input type="checkbox"/> clear, natural line impressed on the bank	<input type="checkbox"/> the presence of litter and debris
<input type="checkbox"/> changes in the character of soil	<input type="checkbox"/> destruction of terrestrial vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> shelving	<input type="checkbox"/> the presence of wrack line
<input type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent	<input type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting
<input type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away	<input type="checkbox"/> scour
<input type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition	<input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events
<input type="checkbox"/> water staining	<input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community
<input type="checkbox"/> other (list):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. <sup>7</sup> Explain:	

If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Tide Line indicated by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mean High Water Mark indicated by:
<input type="checkbox"/> oil or scum line along shore objects	<input type="checkbox"/> survey to available datum;
<input type="checkbox"/> fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore)	<input type="checkbox"/> physical markings;
<input type="checkbox"/> physical markings/characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/> vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.
<input type="checkbox"/> tidal gauges	
<input type="checkbox"/> other (list):	

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.).

Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

(iv) Biological Characteristics. Channel supports (check all that apply):

☐ Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width):  
☐ Wetland fringe. Characteristics:

<sup>6</sup>A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid.

- ☐ Habitat for:
- ☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings:

2. Characteristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i) Physical Characteristics:

(a) General Wetland Characteristics:

Properties:

Wetland size:        acres

Wetland type. Explain:

Wetland quality. Explain:

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: Pick List. Explain:

Surface flow is: Pick List

Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: Pick List. Explain findings:

☐ Dye (or other) test performed:

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

☐ Directly abutting

☐ Not directly abutting

☐ Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:

☐ Ecological connection. Explain:

☐ Separated by berm/barrier. Explain:

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are Pick List river miles from TNW.

Project waters are Pick List aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: Pick List.

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the Pick List floodplain.

(ii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

(iii) Biological Characteristics. Wetland supports (check all that apply):

☐ Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width):

☐ Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain:

☐ Habitat for:

☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings:

☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:

☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:

☐ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings:

3. Characteristics of all wetlands adjacent to the tributary (if any)

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: Pick List

Approximately (        ) acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

### C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary itself and the functions performed by any wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of a TNW. For each of the following situations, a significant nexus exists if the tributary, in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, has more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of a TNW. Considerations when evaluating significant nexus include, but are not limited to the volume, duration, and frequency of the flow of water in the tributary and its proximity to a TNW, and the functions performed by the tributary and all its adjacent wetlands. It is not appropriate to determine significant nexus based solely on any specific threshold of distance (e.g. between a tributary and its adjacent wetland or between a tributary and the TNW). Similarly, the fact an adjacent wetland lies within or outside of a floodplain is not solely determinative of significant nexus.

Draw connections between the features documented and the effects on the TNW, as identified in the *Rapanos* Guidance and discussed in the Instructional Guidebook. Factors to consider include, for example:

- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), provide habitat and lifecycle support functions for fish and other species, such as feeding, nesting, spawning, or rearing young for species that are present in the TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to transfer nutrients and organic carbon that support downstream foodwebs?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have other relationships to the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of the TNW?

Note: the above list of considerations is not inclusive and other functions observed or known to occur should be documented below:

1. Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D:
2. Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:
3. Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:

### D. DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

1. TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands. Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area:

- ☐ TNWs: linear feet width (ft), Or, acres.  
☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: acres.

2. RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- ☐ Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial:  
☐ Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow "seasonally" (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally:

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).  
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.  
Identify type(s) of waters:

3. Non-RPWs<sup>8</sup> that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- ☐ Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).  
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.  
Identify type(s) of waters:

<sup>8</sup>See Footnote # 3.

4. **Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow "seasonally." Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area:          acres.

5. **Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area:          acres.

6. **Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area:          acres.

7. **Impoundments of jurisdictional waters.<sup>9</sup>**

As a general rule, the impoundment of a jurisdictional tributary remains jurisdictional.

- ☐ Demonstrate that impoundment was created from "waters of the U.S.," or
- ☐ Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or
- ☐ Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).

E. **ISOLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):<sup>10</sup>**

- ☐ which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes.
- ☐ from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce.
- ☐ which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.
- ☐ Interstate isolated waters. Explain: .
- ☐ Other factors. Explain: .

**Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:** .

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters:          linear feet          width (ft).
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters:          acres.
- Identify type(s) of waters: .
- ☐ Wetlands:          acres.

F. **NON-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):**

- ☐ If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
- ☐ Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
- ☐ Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR).
- ☐ Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain: .
- ☒ Other: (explain, if not covered above): Reference is made to the November 13, 1986 Federal Register (Page 41217), Part 328 (a) Non-tidal drainage and irrigation ditches excavated on dry land, and (c) artificial lakes or ponds created by excavating and/or diking dry land to collect and retain water and which are used exclusively for such purposes as stock watering, irrigation, settling basins, or rice

<sup>9</sup> To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.

<sup>10</sup> Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following *Rapanos*.



growing. The Corps of Engineers generally does not consider these types of aquatic resources waters of the U.S. except on a case-by-case basis. In this case, there is no relatively permanent flow from the detention basins and roadside ditches to a waters of the US. As such, these detention basins and roadside ditches are not considered jurisdictional.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

#### **SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.**

**A. SUPPORTING DATA.** Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and requested, appropriately reference sources below):

- ☐ Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant:
- ☐ Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
  - ☐ Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
  - ☐ Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- ☐ Data sheets prepared by the Corps:
- ☐ Corps navigable waters' study:
- ☐ U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas:
  - ☐ USGS NHD data.
  - ☐ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- ☐ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: .
- ☐ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: .
- ☐ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: .
- ☐ State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- ☐ FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- ☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- ☐ Photographs: ☐ Aerial (Name & Date): .  
or ☐ Other (Name & Date): .
- ☐ Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: .
- ☐ Applicable/supporting case law: .
- ☐ Applicable/supporting scientific literature: .
- ☐ Other information (please specify): .

**B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:**

**APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM**  
**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

**SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD):** July 1, 2013

**B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER:**

Denver Regulatory Office, I-70 East, I-25 to Tower Road, NWO-2013-1163-DEN

**C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Sand Creek

State: CO County/parish/borough: Denver City: Denver

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 39.7792 N; Long. -104.9778 W

Name of nearest waterbody: Sand Creek

Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: South Platte River

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 10190003

☒ Check if map/diagram of review area and/or potential jurisdictional areas is/are available upon request.

☒ Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

**D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):**

☒ Office (Desk) Determination. Date: July 1, 2013

☐ Field Determination. Date(s):

**SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

**A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.**

There ~~Are~~ **no** "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area. [Required]

☐ Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

☐ Waters are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.  
Explain:

**B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.**

There ~~Are~~ **no** "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

**1. Waters of the U.S.**

**a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply):<sup>1</sup>**

- ☐ TNWs, including territorial seas
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
- ☒ Relatively permanent waters<sup>2</sup> (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☒ Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☒ Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Impoundments of jurisdictional waters
- ☐ Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

**b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:**

Non-wetland waters: Sand Creek linear feet: 2,500

Wetlands: CDOT Wetland Mit. Site and WET278-01 - WET278-12, 0.951 acres.

**c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on:** 1987 Delineation Manual

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):

**2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):<sup>3</sup>**

☐ Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.  
Explain:

<sup>1</sup> Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this form, an RPW is defined as a tributary that is not a TNW and that typically flows year-round or has continuous flow at least "seasonally" (e.g., typically 3 months).

<sup>3</sup> Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

### SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

#### A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over TNWs and wetlands adjacent to TNWs. If the aquatic resource is a TNW, complete Section III.A.1 and Section III.D.1. only; if the aquatic resource is a wetland adjacent to a TNW, complete Sections III.A.1 and 2 and Section III.D.1.; otherwise, see Section III.B below.

1. TNW

Identify TNW:

Summarize rationale supporting determination:

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is "adjacent":

#### B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY):

This section summarizes information regarding characteristics of the tributary and its adjacent wetlands, if any, and it helps determine whether or not the standards for jurisdiction established under *Rapanos* have been met.

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over non-navigable tributaries of TNWs where the tributaries are "relatively permanent waters" (RPWs), i.e. tributaries that typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months). A wetland that directly abuts an RPW is also jurisdictional. If the aquatic resource is not a TNW, but has year-round (perennial) flow, skip to Section III.D.2. If the aquatic resource is a wetland directly abutting a tributary with perennial flow, skip to Section III.D.4.

A wetland that is adjacent to but that does not directly abut an RPW requires a significant nexus evaluation. Corps districts and EPA regions will include in the record any available information that documents the existence of a significant nexus between a relatively permanent tributary that is not perennial (and its adjacent wetlands if any) and a traditional navigable water, even though a significant nexus finding is not required as a matter of law.

If the waterbody<sup>4</sup> is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: 2500 square miles

Drainage area: Pick List

Average annual rainfall: 14 inches

Average annual snowfall: 40 inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

☐ Tributary flows directly into TNW.

☒ Tributary flows through 1 tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are 2-5 river miles from TNW.

Project waters are 1 (or less) river miles from RPW.

Project waters are 2-5 aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Project waters are 1 (or less) aerial (straight) miles from RPW.

Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

Identify flow route to TNW<sup>5</sup>: Flows directly into South Platte River.

Tributary stream order, if known:

<sup>4</sup> Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

<sup>5</sup> Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW.

(b) General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply):

Tributary is: ☐ Natural  
☐ Artificial (man-made). Explain:  
☒ Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

Average width: feet

Average depth: feet

Average side slopes: 3:1

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

☒ Silts ☒ Sands ☐ Concrete  
☐ Cobbles ☐ Gravel ☐ Muck  
☐ Bedrock ☐ Vegetation. Type/% cover:  
☐ Other. Explain:

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain: sloughing banks.

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain:

Tributary geometry: Relatively straight

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): 1 %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: Perennial flow

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: 1

Describe flow regime: flows year round.

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is: Confined. Characteristics: flows confined to channel.

Subsurface flow: Unknown. Explain findings:

☐ Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

☒ Bed and banks  
☒ OHWM<sup>6</sup> (check all indicators that apply):  
☒ clear, natural line impressed on the bank ☐ the presence of litter and debris  
☐ changes in the character of soil ☒ destruction of terrestrial vegetation  
☐ shelving ☐ the presence of wrack line  
☐ vegetation matted down, bent, or absent ☐ sediment sorting  
☐ leaf litter disturbed or washed away ☒ scour  
☒ sediment deposition ☐ multiple observed or predicted flow events  
☐ water staining ☐ abrupt change in plant community  
☐ other (list):  
☐ Discontinuous OHWM.<sup>7</sup> Explain:

If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply):

☒ High Tide Line indicated by: ☒ Mean High Water Mark indicated by:  
☐ oil or scum line along shore objects ☐ survey to available datum;  
☐ fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore) ☐ physical markings;  
☐ physical markings/characteristics ☐ vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.  
☐ tidal gauges  
☐ other (list):

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.).

Explain: water color is generally clear, turning silty during precipitation events.

Identify specific pollutants, if known: possible asphalt sealcoating, oil and fuel from adjacent parking lots. Adjacent areas are heavily industrialized.

<sup>6</sup>A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid.

(iv) **Biological Characteristics. Channel supports (check all that apply):**

- ☒ Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): riparian corridor is sparse.  
☐ Wetland fringe. Characteristics:  
☒ Habitat for:  
☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings:  
☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:  
☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:  
☒ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: possible corridor for migratory birds.

2. **Characteristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow directly or indirectly into TNW**

(i) **Physical Characteristics:**

(a) General Wetland Characteristics:

Properties:

Wetland size: 0.19 acres

Wetland type. Explain: PEM.

Wetland quality. Explain: poor, likely due to influence of urban conditions.

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: Ephemeral flow. Explain: flows from wetland to Sand Creek during precipitation events.

Surface flow is: Overland sheetflow

Characteristics: Wetlands range from approximately 15 feet to 150 feet from Sand Creek. Flows traverse adjacent uplands.

Subsurface flow: Unknown. Explain findings:

☐ Dye (or other) test performed:

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

☐ Directly abutting

☒ Not directly abutting

☐ Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:

☒ Ecological connection. Explain: See Section 3 below.

☐ Separated by berm/barrier. Explain:

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are 2-5 river miles from TNW.

Project waters are 2-5 aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: Wetland to navigable waters.

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the 20 - 50-year floodplain.

(ii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain: Unknown. Likely clear to silty during precipitation events.

Identify specific pollutants, if known: possible asphalt sealcoating, oil and fuel from adjacent parking lots. Adjacent areas are heavily industrialized..

(iii) **Biological Characteristics. Wetland supports (check all that apply):**

- ☐ Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width):  
☒ Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: PEM.  
☐ Habitat for:  
☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings:  
☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:  
☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:  
☒ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: See Section 3 below.

3. **Characteristics of all wetlands adjacent to the tributary (if any)**

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: 2

Approximately (0.19) acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

For each wetland, specify the following:

<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>	<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>
WET278-01	0.17		



Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: The biological function may provide habitat for micro and macro invertebrates including annelids, arthropods, arachnids and amphibians, which may be a food source for birds, rodents, small carnivorous mammals and reptiles. The vegetation may provide cover and a food source for certain birds and other wildlife associated with the high plains and urban development. Chemical function is most likely low, however due to likely contaminated adjacent stormwater runoff, the wetlands act as detention facilities to improve surface/ground water quality and flood detention prior to entering Sand Creek.

### C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary itself and the functions performed by any wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of a TNW. For each of the following situations, a significant nexus exists if the tributary, in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, has more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of a TNW. Considerations when evaluating significant nexus include, but are not limited to the volume, duration, and frequency of the flow of water in the tributary and its proximity to a TNW, and the functions performed by the tributary and all its adjacent wetlands. It is not appropriate to determine significant nexus based solely on any specific threshold of distance (e.g. between a tributary and its adjacent wetland or between a tributary and the TNW). Similarly, the fact an adjacent wetland lies within or outside of a floodplain is not solely determinative of significant nexus.

Draw connections between the features documented and the effects on the TNW, as identified in the *Rapanos* Guidance and discussed in the Instructional Guidebook. Factors to consider include, for example:

- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), provide habitat and lifecycle support functions for fish and other species, such as feeding, nesting, spawning, or rearing young for species that are present in the TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to transfer nutrients and organic carbon that support downstream foodwebs?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have other relationships to the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of the TNW?

**Note:** the above list of considerations is not inclusive and other functions observed or known to occur should be documented below:

1. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D:
2. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:
3. **Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:

Hydrological, Biological, Chemical Nexus: Although the quality of the adjacent wetlands may be poor to fair, the adjacent wetlands perform erosion control measures, flood control and flood attenuation functions, as well as sediment mitigation by holding back sediment runoff that would eventually enter Sand Creek. Wetland plants have the ability to uptake or detain chemicals such as nitrates and phosphates which naturally erode from the soil, and industrial contaminants, such as asphalt sealcoating, oil and fuel. This uptake and detention of chemicals by wetland vegetation improves downstream water quality by preventing the chemicals from continuing downstream. These wetlands within the watershed incrementally and cumulatively increase the water quality of downstream tributaries, which in this case includes the South Platte River, a TNW.

Based on the above information, Sand Creek and these adjacent wetlands have a significant nexus to the nearest TNW, the South Platte River.

### D. DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

1. **TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands.** Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area:  
☐ TNWs: linear feet width (ft), Or, acres.  
☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: acres.

2. **RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☒ Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial: USGS flow gauges on Sand Creek show perennial flow.
- ☐ Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow "seasonally" (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally:

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).  
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.  
Identify type(s) of waters: .

3. **Non-RPWs<sup>8</sup> that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).  
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.  
Identify type(s) of waters: .

4. **Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☒ Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.  
☒ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: Wetlands WET278-02 – WET278-12 are fringe to OHWM of Sand Creek.
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow "seasonally." Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: 0.761 acres.

5. **Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☒ Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. CDOT Wetland Mit. Site and WET278-01

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: 0.19 acres.

6. **Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

7. **Impoundments of jurisdictional waters.<sup>9</sup>**

As a general rule, the impoundment of a jurisdictional tributary remains jurisdictional.

- ☐ Demonstrate that impoundment was created from "waters of the U.S.," or  
☐ Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or  
☐ Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).

**E. ISOLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):<sup>10</sup>**

- ☐ which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes.  
☐ from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce.

<sup>8</sup>See Footnote # 3.

<sup>9</sup>To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.

<sup>10</sup> Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following *Rapanos*.

- ☐ which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.
- ☐ Interstate isolated waters. Explain: .
- ☐ Other factors. Explain: .

**Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:**

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
- Identify type(s) of waters: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

**F. NON-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):**

- ☐ If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
- ☐ Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
  - ☐ Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR).
- ☐ Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain: .
- ☐ Other: (explain, if not covered above): .

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

**SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.**

**A. SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and requested, appropriately reference sources below):**

- ☒ Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: CDOT
- ☐ Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
  - ☐ Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
  - ☐ Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- ☐ Data sheets prepared by the Corps:
- ☐ Corps navigable waters' study:
- ☒ U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
  - ☐ USGS NHD data.
  - ☒ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- ☒ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: 1:24000, Commerce City
- ☐ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: .
- ☐ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: .
- ☐ State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- ☐ FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- ☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- ☒ Photographs: ☒ Aerial (Name & Date): Project Site
  - or ☐ Other (Name & Date):
- ☐ Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: .
- ☒ Applicable/supporting case law: Rapanos and Carabell cases.
- ☐ Applicable/supporting scientific literature: .
- ☐ Other information (please specify): .

**APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM**  
**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

**SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD):** July 1, 2013

**B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER:**

Denver Regulatory Office, I-70 East, I-25 to Tower Road, NWO-2013-1163-DEN

**C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

State: CO County/parish/borough: Denver City: Denver

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat.-104.9776 N; Long. 39.7802 W

Name of nearest waterbody: South Platte River

Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: South Platte River

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 10190003

☒ Check if map/diagram of review area and/or potential jurisdictional areas is/are available upon request.

☒ Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

**D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):**

☒ Office (Desk) Determination. Date: July 1, 2013

☐ Field Determination. Date(s):

**SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

**A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.**

There Are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area. [Required]

☐ Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

☐ Waters are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.  
Explain:

**B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.**

There Are "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

**1. Waters of the U.S.**

**a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply):<sup>1</sup>**

- ☒ TNWs, including territorial seas
- ☒ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
- ☐ Relatively permanent waters<sup>2</sup> (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Impoundments of jurisdictional waters
- ☐ Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

**b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:**

Non-wetland waters: South Platte River, 750 linear feet

Wetlands: WET274-01 and WET274-02, approximately 0.03 acres.

**c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on:** 1987 Delineation Manual

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):

**2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):<sup>3</sup>**

☐ Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.

Explain:

<sup>1</sup> Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this form, an RPW is defined as a tributary that is not a TNW and that typically flows year-round or has continuous flow at least "seasonally" (e.g., typically 3 months).

<sup>3</sup> Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

### SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

#### A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over TNWs and wetlands adjacent to TNWs. If the aquatic resource is a TNW, complete Section III.A.1 and Section III.D.1. only; if the aquatic resource is a wetland adjacent to a TNW, complete Sections III.A.1 and 2 and Section III.D.1.; otherwise, see Section III.B below.

##### 1. TNW

Identify TNW: South Platte River.

Summarize rationale supporting determination:

The South Platte River is a traditionally navigable water that was historically used for commerce, as cited in the 1974 navigability study prepared by Donald Spritzer, USACE. The South Platte River also hosts at least four known commercial outfitters offering rentals, shuttles and guided trips. In addition, the South Platte River is an interstate waters.

##### 2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is "adjacent": Wetlands are directly abutting OHWM of South Platte River.

#### B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY):

This section summarizes information regarding characteristics of the tributary and its adjacent wetlands, if any, and it helps determine whether or not the standards for jurisdiction established under *Rapanos* have been met.

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over non-navigable tributaries of TNWs where the tributaries are "relatively permanent waters" (RPWs), i.e. tributaries that typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months). A wetland that directly abuts an RPW is also jurisdictional. If the aquatic resource is not a TNW, but has year-round (perennial) flow, skip to Section III.D.2. If the aquatic resource is a wetland directly abutting a tributary with perennial flow, skip to Section III.D.4.

A wetland that is adjacent to but that does not directly abut an RPW requires a significant nexus evaluation. Corps districts and EPA regions will include in the record any available information that documents the existence of a significant nexus between a relatively permanent tributary that is not perennial (and its adjacent wetlands if any) and a traditional navigable water, even though a significant nexus finding is not required as a matter of law.

If the waterbody<sup>4</sup> is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

##### 1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

###### (i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: Pick List

Drainage area: Pick List

Average annual rainfall:        inches

Average annual snowfall:       inches

###### (ii) Physical Characteristics:

###### (a) Relationship with TNW:

☐ Tributary flows directly into TNW.

☐ Tributary flows through Pick List tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are Pick List river miles from TNW.

Project waters are Pick List river miles from RPW.

Project waters are Pick List aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Project waters are Pick List aerial (straight) miles from RPW.

Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

<sup>4</sup> Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.



Identify flow route to TNW<sup>5</sup>:  
Tributary stream order, if known:

(b) General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply):

Tributary is: ☐ Natural  
☐ Artificial (man-made). Explain:  
☐ Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

Average width:           feet  
Average depth:           feet  
Average side slopes: Pick List.

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Silts	<input type="checkbox"/> Sands	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="checkbox"/> Cobbles	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravel	<input type="checkbox"/> Muck
<input type="checkbox"/> Bedrock	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation. Type/% cover:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explain:		

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain:

Tributary geometry: Pick List

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope):           %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: Pick List

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: Pick List

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is: Pick List. Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: Pick List. Explain findings:

☐ Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Bed and banks	
<input type="checkbox"/> OHWM <sup>6</sup> (check all indicators that apply):	
<input type="checkbox"/> clear, natural line impressed on the bank	<input type="checkbox"/> the presence of litter and debris
<input type="checkbox"/> changes in the character of soil	<input type="checkbox"/> destruction of terrestrial vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> shelving	<input type="checkbox"/> the presence of wrack line
<input type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent	<input type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting
<input type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away	<input type="checkbox"/> scour
<input type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition	<input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events
<input type="checkbox"/> water staining	<input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community
<input type="checkbox"/> other (list):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. <sup>7</sup> Explain:	

If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Tide Line indicated by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mean High Water Mark indicated by:
<input type="checkbox"/> oil or scum line along shore objects	<input type="checkbox"/> survey to available datum;
<input type="checkbox"/> fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore)	<input type="checkbox"/> physical markings;
<input type="checkbox"/> physical markings/characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/> vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.
<input type="checkbox"/> tidal gauges	
<input type="checkbox"/> other (list):	

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.).

Explain:

<sup>5</sup> Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW.

<sup>6</sup> A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

(iv) **Biological Characteristics. Channel supports (check all that apply):**

- ☐ Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width):
- ☐ Wetland fringe. Characteristics:
- ☐ Habitat for:
  - ☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings:

2. **Characteristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow directly or indirectly into TNW**

(i) **Physical Characteristics:**

(a) General Wetland Characteristics:

Properties:

Wetland size:          acres

Wetland type. Explain:

Wetland quality. Explain:

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: Pick List. Explain:

Surface flow is: Pick List

Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: Pick List. Explain findings:

☐ Dye (or other) test performed:

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

- ☐ Directly abutting
- ☐ Not directly abutting
  - ☐ Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:
  - ☐ Ecological connection. Explain:
  - ☐ Separated by berm/barrier. Explain:

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are Pick List river miles from TNW.

Project waters are Pick List aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: Pick List.

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the Pick List floodplain.

(ii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

(iii) **Biological Characteristics. Wetland supports (check all that apply):**

- ☐ Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width):
- ☐ Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain:
- ☐ Habitat for:
  - ☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:
  - ☐ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings:

3. **Characteristics of all wetlands adjacent to the tributary (if any)**

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: Pick List

Approximately (          ) acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

### C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary itself and the functions performed by any wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of a TNW. For each of the following situations, a significant nexus exists if the tributary, in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, has more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of a TNW. Considerations when evaluating significant nexus include, but are not limited to the volume, duration, and frequency of the flow of water in the tributary and its proximity to a TNW, and the functions performed by the tributary and all its adjacent wetlands. It is not appropriate to determine significant nexus based solely on any specific threshold of distance (e.g. between a tributary and its adjacent wetland or between a tributary and the TNW). Similarly, the fact an adjacent wetland lies within or outside of a floodplain is not solely determinative of significant nexus.

Draw connections between the features documented and the effects on the TNW, as identified in the *Rapahos* Guidance and discussed in the Instructional Guidebook. Factors to consider include, for example:

- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), provide habitat and lifecycle support functions for fish and other species, such as feeding, nesting, spawning, or rearing young for species that are present in the TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to transfer nutrients and organic carbon that support downstream foodwebs?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have other relationships to the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of the TNW?

**Note:** the above list of considerations is not inclusive and other functions observed or known to occur should be documented below:

1. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D:
2. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:
3. **Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands; then go to Section III.D:

### D. DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

1. **TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands.** Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area:

- ☐ TNWs: linear feet width (ft), Or, acres.  
☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: acres.

2. **RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial:  
☐ Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow "seasonally" (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally:

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).  
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.  
Identify type(s) of waters:

3. **Non-RPWs<sup>8</sup> that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).  
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.

<sup>8</sup>See Footnote # 3.

Identify type(s) of waters:

4. **Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow "seasonally." Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

5. **Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

6. **Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

7. **Impoundments of jurisdictional waters.<sup>9</sup>**

As a general rule, the impoundment of a jurisdictional tributary remains jurisdictional.

- ☐ Demonstrate that impoundment was created from "waters of the U.S.," or
- ☐ Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or
- ☐ Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).

E. **ISOLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):<sup>10</sup>**

- ☐ which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes.
- ☐ from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce.
- ☐ which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.
- ☐ Interstate isolated waters. Explain:
- ☐ Other factors. Explain:

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
- Identify type(s) of waters:
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

F. **NON-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):**

- ☐ If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
- ☐ Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
- ☐ Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "*SWANCC*," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR).
- ☐ Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain:
- ☐ Other: (explain, if not covered above):

<sup>9</sup> To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.

<sup>10</sup> Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following *Rapanos*.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams):      linear feet      width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds:      acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters:      acres. List type of aquatic resource:      .
- ☐ Wetlands:      acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams):      linear feet,      width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds:      acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters:      acres. List type of aquatic resource:      .
- ☐ Wetlands:      acres.

#### **SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.**

**A. SUPPORTING DATA.** Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and requested, appropriately reference sources below):

- ☒ Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant:
- ☐ Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
  - ☐ Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
  - ☐ Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- ☐ Data sheets prepared by the Corps:
- ☐ Corps navigable waters' study:
- ☒ U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas:
  - ☐ USGS NHD data.
  - ☒ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- ☐ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name:
- ☐ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation:      .
- ☐ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name:      .
- ☐ State/Local wetland inventory map(s):      .
- ☐ FEMA/FIRM maps:
- ☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is:      (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- ☐ Photographs: ☐ Aerial (Name & Date):       
or ☐ Other (Name & Date):
- ☐ Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:      .
- ☒ Applicable/supporting case law: Rapanos and Carabell cases.
- ☐ Applicable/supporting scientific literature:      .
- ☒ Other information (please specify): Google Earth.

**B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:**



